JUMP COMICS

巻ノ十七

イタチの能力(ちから)!!

NARUTO
-ナルト-

岸本斉史

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岸本斉史

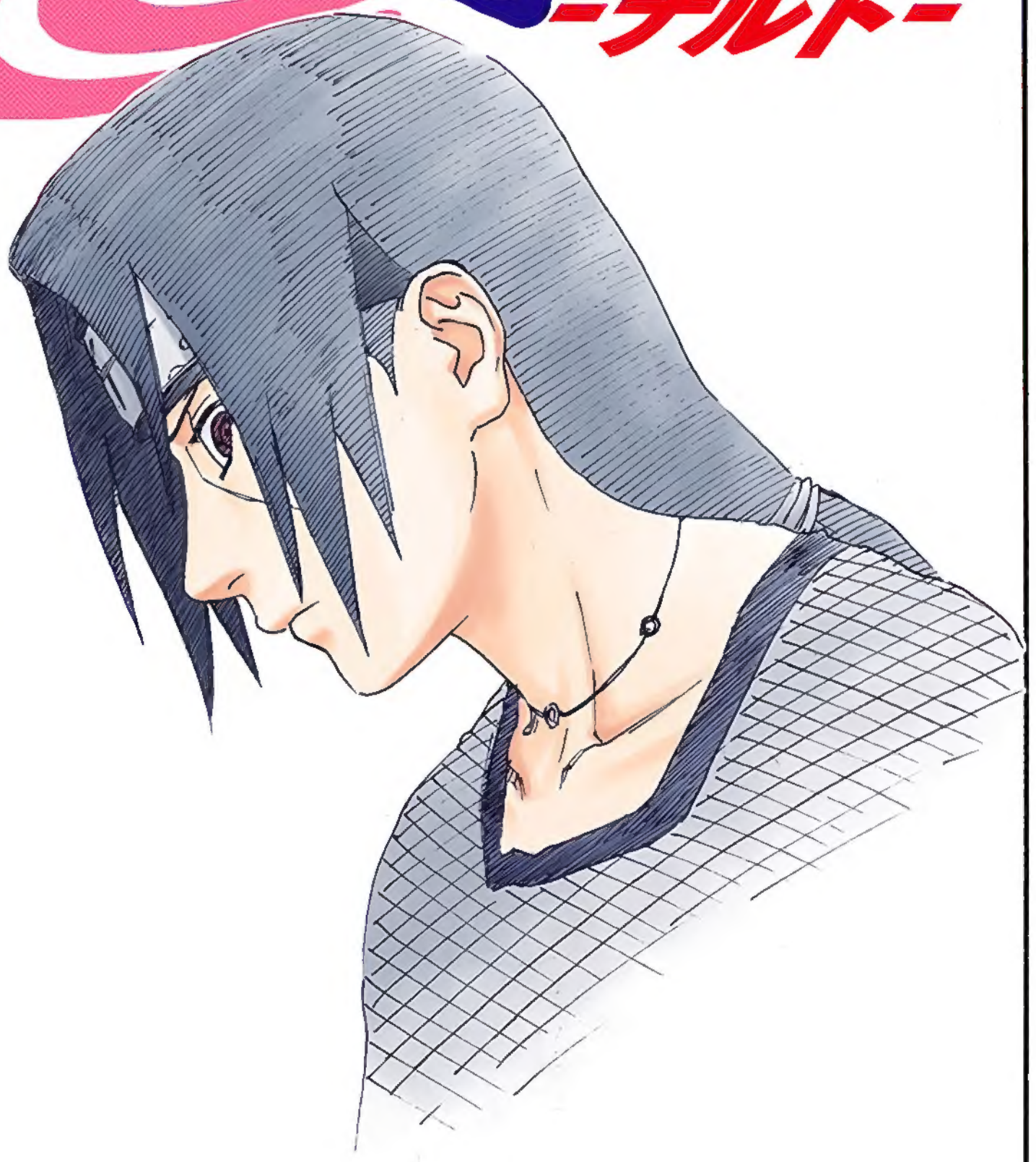
Recently, I haven't been exercising at all!! And so now, when I bike up even a slight incline, I get muscle cramps...And not just in my legs, but in my arms, too! Why?

—*Masashi Kishimoto, 2003*

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.

JUMP COMICS

NARUTO
-ナルト-



巻ノ十七

イタチの能力(ちから)!!

岸本斉史

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主な登場人物

うちは
サスケ

うずまき
ナルト

春野サクラ

うちはイタチ

干柿鬼鮫

大蛇丸

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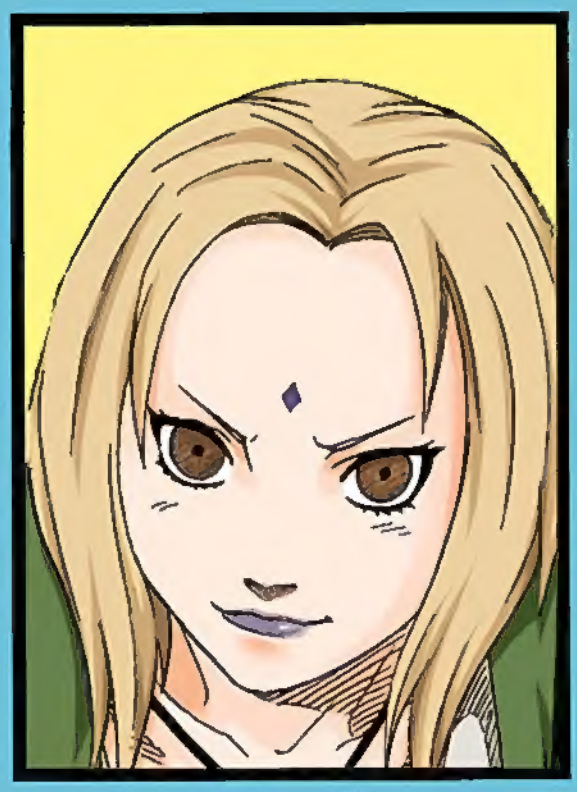
マイト・ガイ

はたけカカシ

じらいや
自来也



ツナデ
綱手

THE STORY SO FAR...

Twelve years ago a destructive nine-tailed fox spirit attacked the ninja village of Konohagakure. The Hokage, or village champion, defeated the fox by sealing its soul into the body of a baby boy. Now that boy, Uzumaki Naruto, has grown up to be a ninja-in-training, learning the art of ninjutsu with his teammates Sakura and Sasuke.

Naruto and company take on the Chûnin Selection Exams but suffer a sudden attack from Orochimaru in the Forest of Death. Orochimaru leaves a curse mark on Sasuke's body and vanishes, only to return during the final round to launch *Operation Destroy Konoha!*

While Naruto battles Gaara, the Third Hokage sacrifices himself to defeat Orochimaru. Konohagakure is saved, and Jiraiya and Naruto set out to hunt down the elusive Tsunade to fill the position of Fifth Hokage, but they are pursued by two menacing shadows…

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NARUTO
ーナルトー

巻ノ十七

イタチの能力(ちから)!!

もくじ

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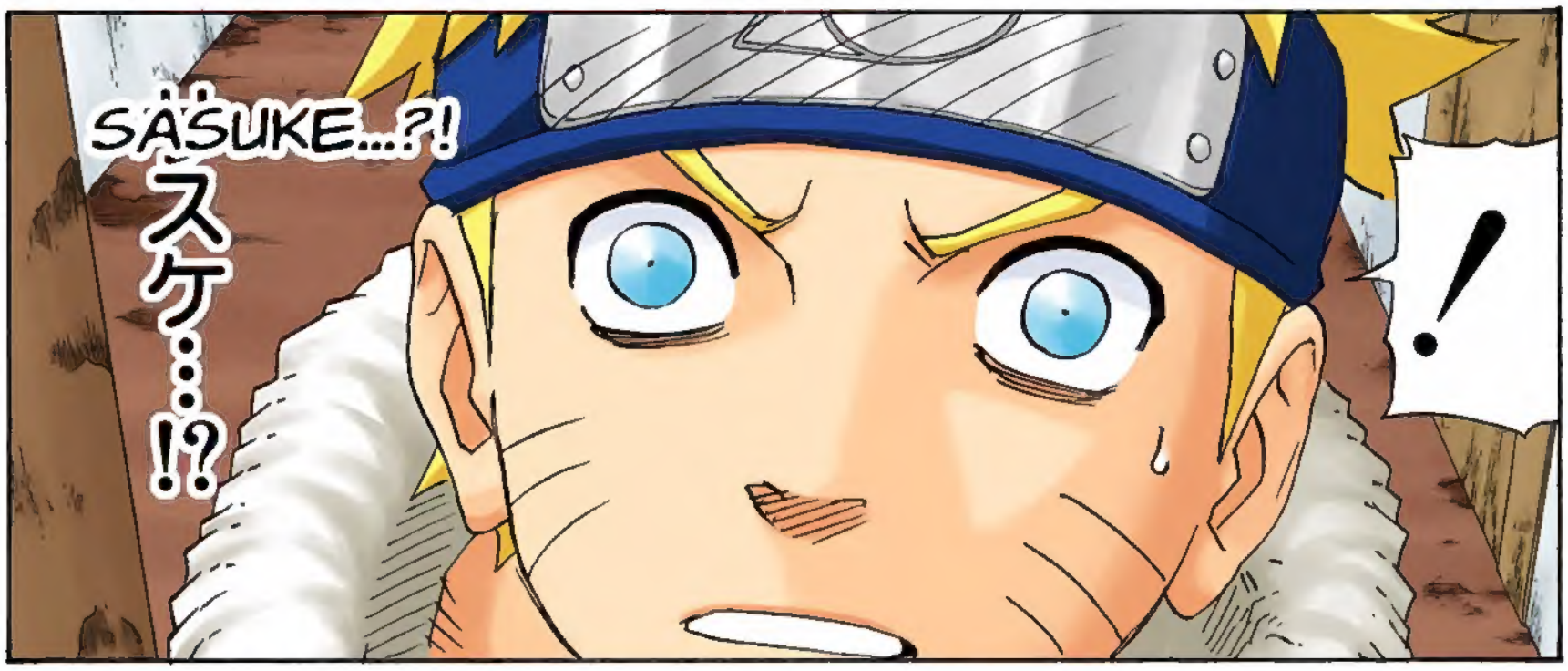
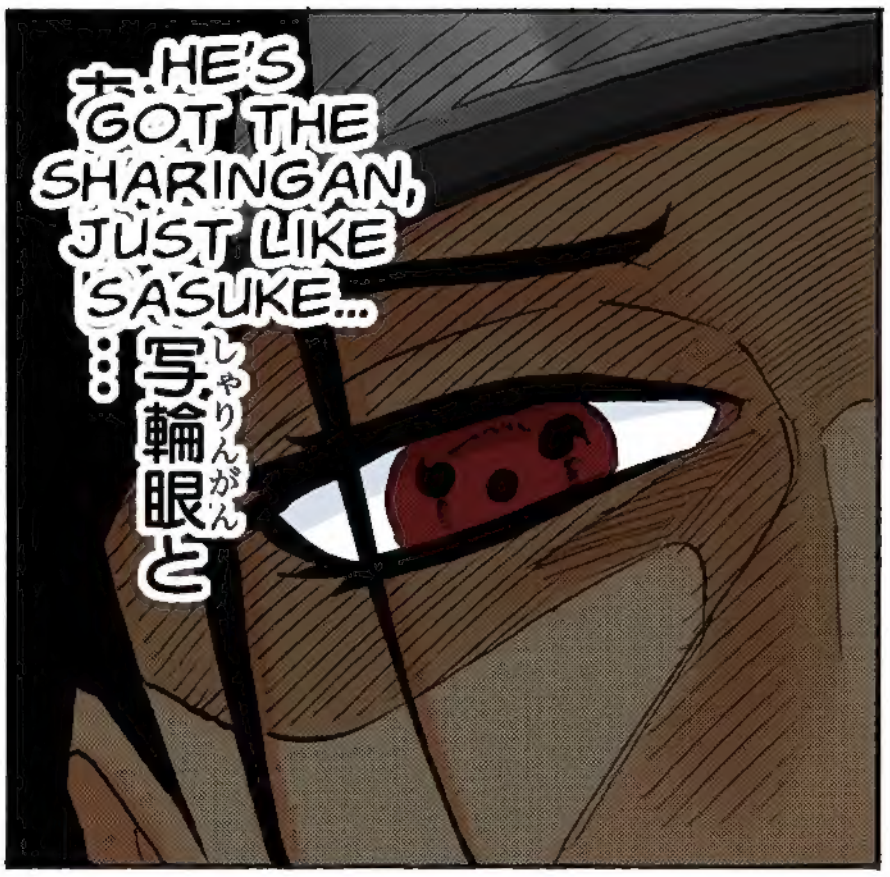
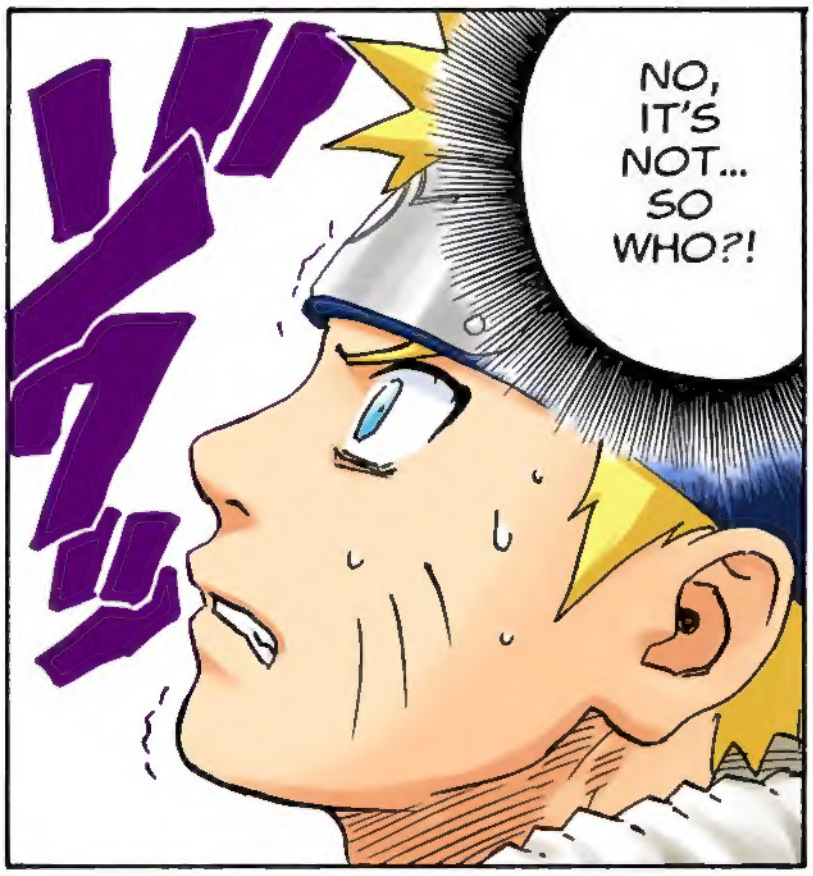
ナンバー 145：絶望の記憶
MEMORIES OF DESPAIR







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HARD TO BELIEVE THAT SUCH A CHILD CARRIES THE NINE-TAILED...

HH!

ナンバー
145：
絶望の記憶
ぜつぼう　き おく

!!

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NARUTO, WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH US.

...HOW THE HECK DO THESE GUYS KNOW ABOUT NINE TAILS...?!

!

PSH...!

BUT IT'S THE WRONG PAIR!

FOR SURE, IT'S A FOOL-FACED BLONDIE AND A BIG WHITE-HAIRED GUY...

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アツが近ちかくに居いる!!
HE'S CLOSE BY, I CAN FEEL IT!!

BIG BRO-THER..

I'M BUSY... WHY DON'T YOU ASK FATHER.

...

HELP ME WITH MY SHURIKEN JUTSU TODAY, PLEASE...

...WHY DO YOU ALWAYS TREAT ME LIKE SUCH A PEST?

...

EVEN I CAN TELL THAT.

BUT YOU'RE BETTER AT SHURIKEN JUTSU...

...

ｸｯ ｸｯ

ｽｯ

ｸｽ ｸｽ

SORRY, SASUKE...

...MAYBE NEXT TIME.

WHAP

OWW!

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NARUTOMANGA.COM

!

...

...AND YOU NEVER HAVE TIME. IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME STORY.

YOU ALWAYS SAY **SORRY, SASUKE** AND JAB ME IN THE FOREHEAD...

I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.

SHWU

ガッ

FATHER, WHY DOESN'T BIG BROTHER EVER LOOK AFTER ME?

EVEN THOUGH I'M HIS LITTLE BROTHER ...

カチャ カチャ

WHY?

HE DOESN'T LIKE TO GET TOO CLOSE TO PEOPLE.

YOUR BROTHER'S ALWAYS BEEN A LITTLE DIFFERENT, SON...

...

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IF YOU WANT SHURIKEN PRACTICE, I CAN HELP YOU WITH IT WHEN YOU GET HOME TODAY.

HERE, SASUKE! YOUR LUNCH.

I CAN'T EVEN READ HIM... HIS OWN FATHER...

WHO KNOWS...

IT'S NOT PRACTICE, IT'S TRAINING!

GRP

I'M ALREADY THE SAME AGE AS WHEN HE GRADUATED, BUT I'M NOT EVEN CLOSE...

のに 今 業 し た 全 然 …

BIG BROTHER GRADUATED TOP SEAT FROM THE ACADEMY, WHEN HE WAS, ONLY SEVEN... HE WAS ABLE TO USE THE SHARINGAN BY THE TIME HE WAS EIGHT... AND THEN WHEN HE WAS TEN, HE ROSE TO CHUNIN RANK...

兄 さ ん は が っ を た …

I'M OFF!

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I WON'T LAG BEHIND BIG BROTHER!!

タッタッ

...BUT I'VE GOT THE SAME UCHIHA CLAN BLOOD FLOWING IN MY VEINS.

I STAYED BEHIND TO THROW SHURIKEN SO LONG IT'S GOTTEN LATE...

なったな…

!

何だ…？ …
WHAT WAS THAT…?

…I THOUGHT I SAW SOMETHING JUST NOW…
なにかいた気が…

!!

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MANGA.COM

虎視

WHAT'S GOING ON...?!! なんだい...!!?

WHAT IS THIS!! なんだよ!!

WH... WHAT...

IS THIS...

!!

SASUKE... DON'T COME IN!

FATHER! MOTHER!

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CREAK...

GO!
GO!
GO!

ガ"
ガ"

FWIP

FATHER!!
MOTHER!!

HOW?! WHY?!!

WHO WOULD DO SUCH A...

...BIG BROTHER!! BIG BROTHER!! FATHER AND MOTHER ARE...!!

BIG BRO-THER!

!!

...?!

UGH...!

SLASH

!!

THOCK

FOOLISH LITTLE BROTHER ...

MANGEKYO SHARINGAN!!!

万華鏡写輪眼!!
まんげきょうしゃりんがん

ドクン

HUNH-

WHY?!
...NO!!
ITACHI!!
AAARRRGH!!

AAAARGH!!
STOP IT!!

WAAAAAH!!

STOP!!
BIG
BROTHER!

DON'T...
FATHER AND
MOTHER,
AAAARGH!

DON'T
SHOW
ME
SUCH
THINGS!!!

TH-THESE GUYS,... THEY'RE NOT ORDINARY...

こいつら じゃねー……

ガッ!

WHY DON'T YOU STEP OUT OF THE ROOM...?

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CLENCH...

PERHAPS WE SHOULD CUT OFF ONE OF HIS LEGS OR SOME-THING...

ITACHI...

IT WOULD BE BOTHER-SOME TO HAVE HIM WANDER-ING OFF...

...HMM...

WH... WHAT?!

!!

...!

TMP

TMP

WELL THEN...

...

EXPLORER SCANS
MANGA.COM

LONG TIME NO SEE... SASUKE.

HUH?!

MY MY... TODAY TRULY IS AN UNUSUAL DAY INDEED...

TO BE ABLE TO SEE... OTHER SHARINGAN NOT JUST ONCE, BUT TWICE.

...UCHIHA ITACHI...

!

COLORED BY NARUTOMANGA.COM

I WILL...

...
KILL YOU!!

COLORED MANGA.COM

ナンバー

146：憎悪（ぞうお）とともに…!!

ALONG WITH HATRED

..UCHIHA ITACHI..?

!?

THE SAME UCHIHA AS SASUKE?

.....

.....

AND HE LOOKS AN AWFUL LOT LIKE YOU.

WELL, A SHARINGAN.

WHO IS THAT KID, ITACHI?

WHAT ARE THEY?

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?!

HE'S...MY BROTHER.

THAT'S FUNNY, 'CUZ THE WHOLE UCHIHA CLAN WAS WIPED OUT, THE WAY I HEARD IT.

!!

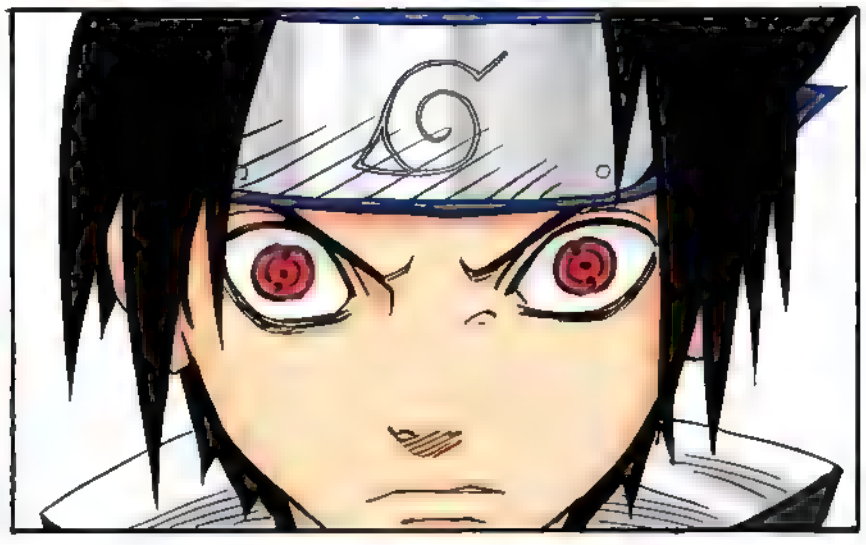
...BY YOU!

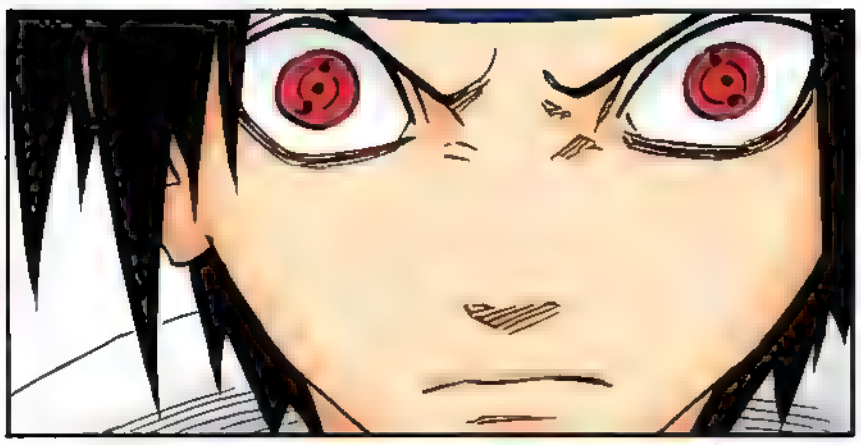
I SWORE I WOULDN'T DIE UNTIL I KILLED HIM; MY OWN BROTHER!

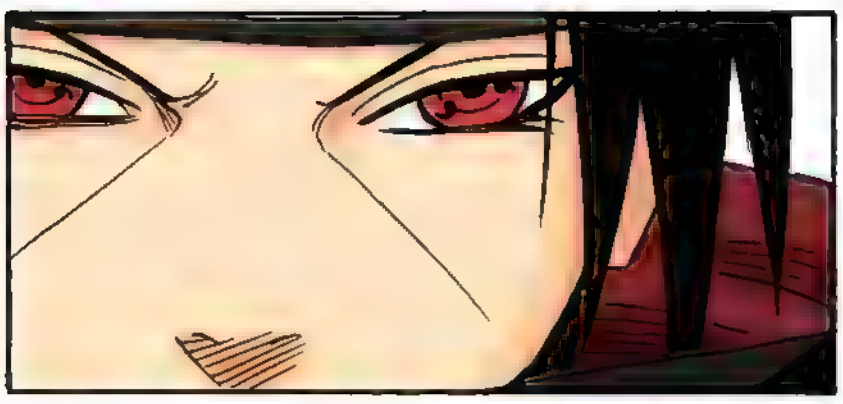
THERE'S SOMEONE I HAVE SWORN TO KILL.

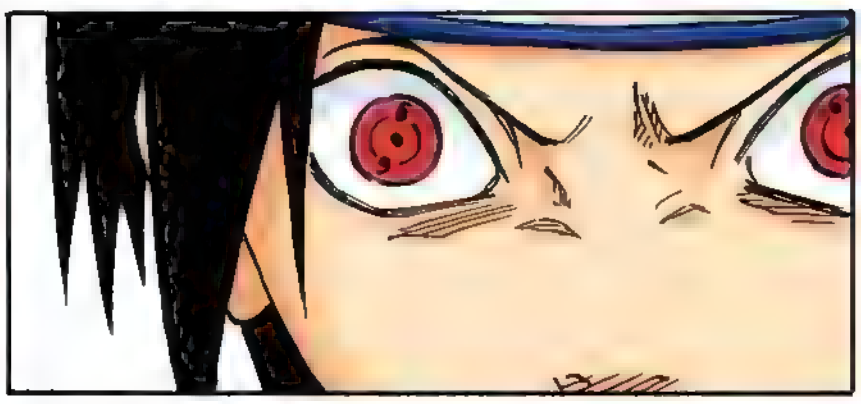
THE ONE HE WANTS TO KILL...

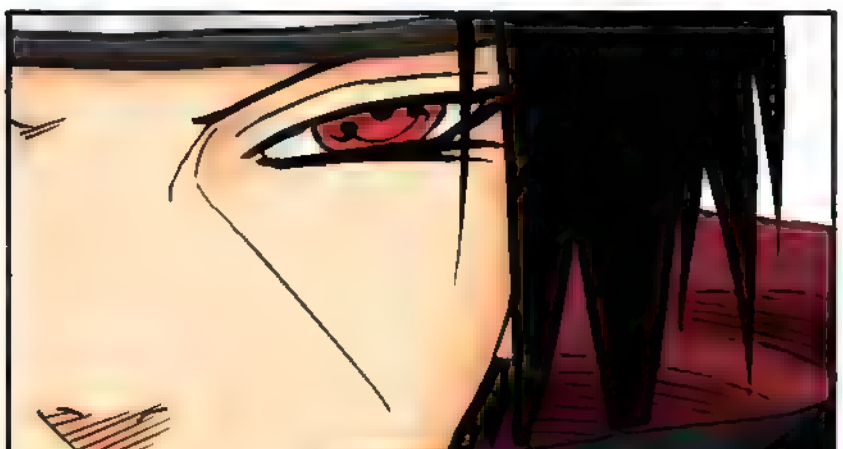
SO THIS IS THE MAN SASUKE WAS TALKING ABOUT!

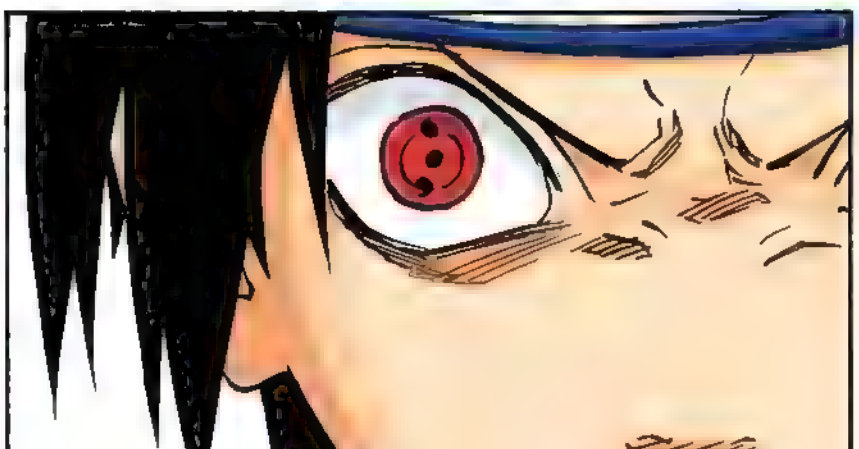












AAAAAARGH!!!

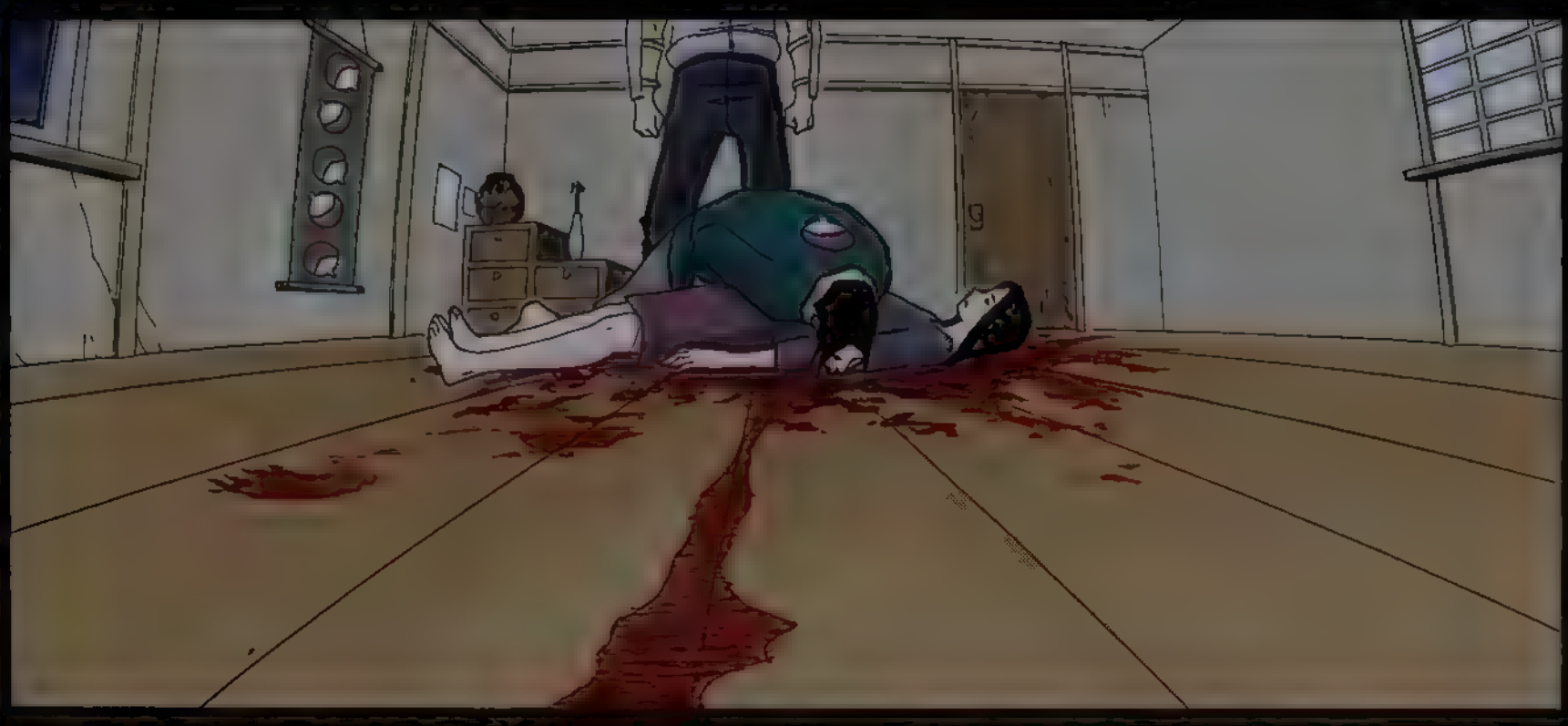
A...
AAAH!!

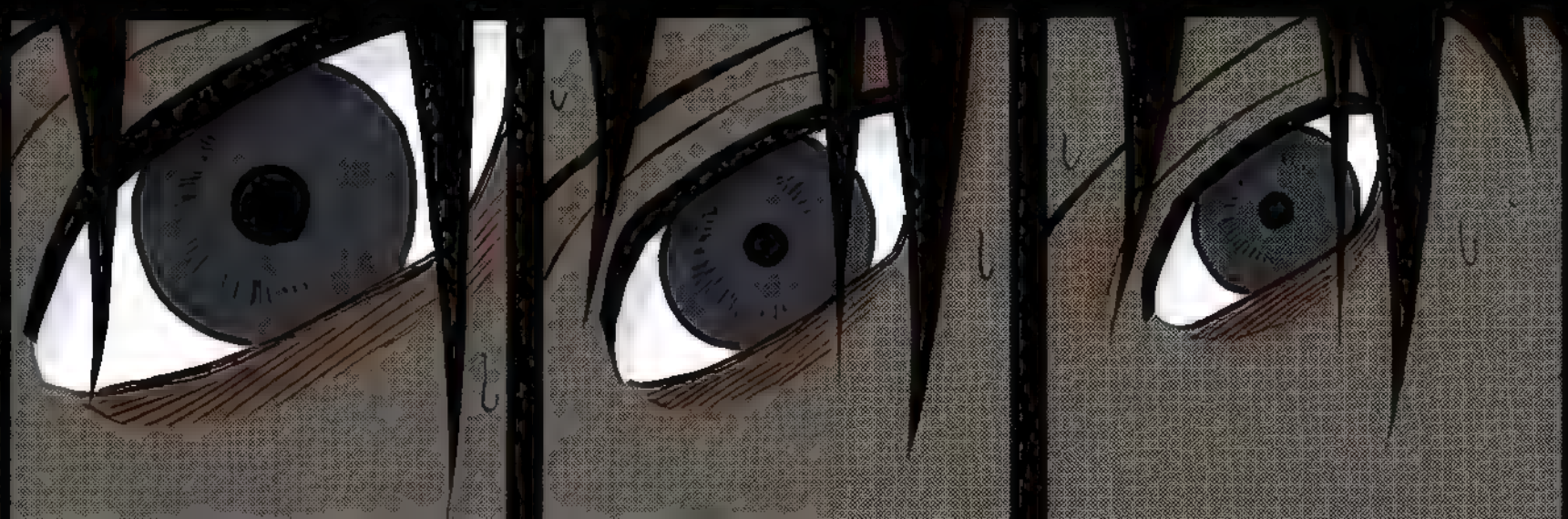
https://discord.gg/ZTmzect
Contact: aHelpfulLoli@gmail.com

https://discord.gg/ZTmzect
Contact: aHelpfulLoli@gmail.com

*FWMP

ドサッ





..DID YOU?

WHY...

TO MEASURE MY CAPACITY.

I HAD TO.

THAT'S YOUR ONLY REASON... FOR KILLING EVERYBODY?

.....

MEASURE YOUR CAPACITY?

.....

THAT'S IT..?

.....

https://discord.gg/ZTmzect
Contact: aHelpfullOli@gmail.com

https://discord.gg/ZTmzect
Contact: aHelpfulLoli@gmail.com

WHAT... KIND OF EXCUSE IS THAT...

.....

*CLOD

FWU

*FWEEE

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?!

RR

*THUMP

DU

AFRAID!!

'FRAID...

CHAK

YOU... ARE NOT EVEN WORTH KILLING.

BABY BROTHER, YOU'RE PATHETIC.

WAAAH! DON'T KILL ME!!

SHOO

WHEEE

HATE ME AND LIVE LIKE THE COWARD YOU ARE!

CLINGING TO LIFE WITHOUT HONOR!

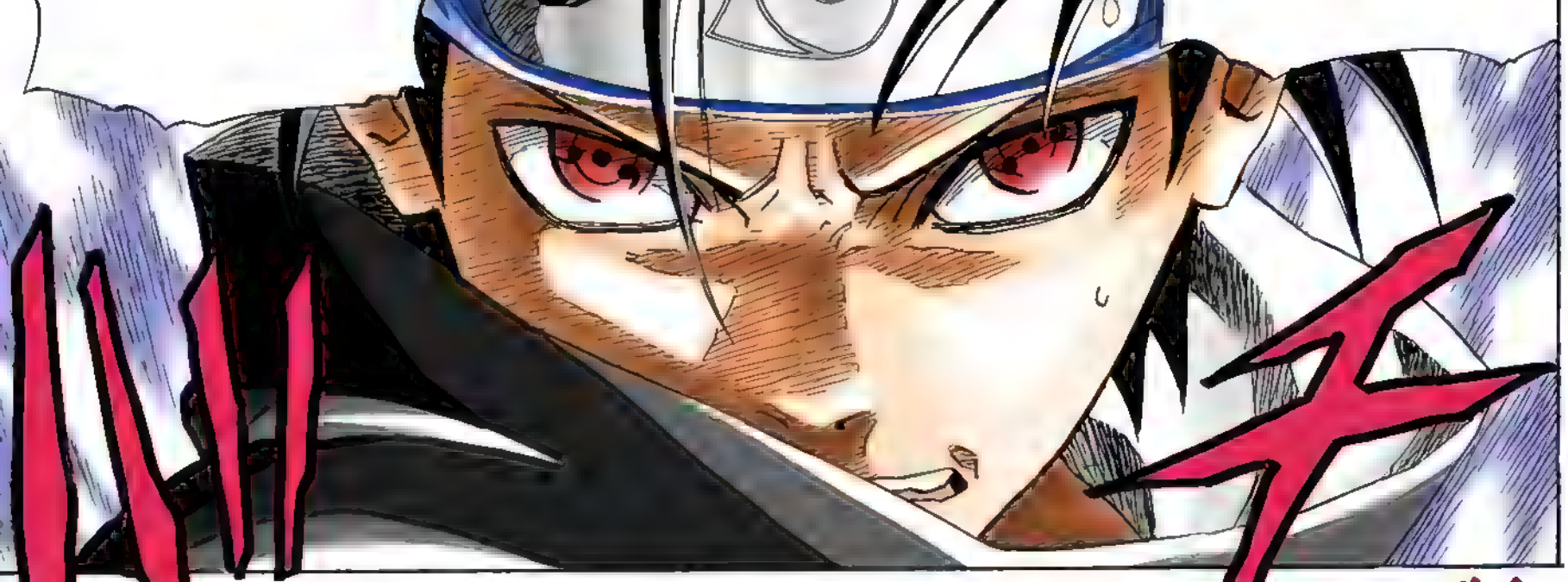
IF YOU WANT TO KILL ME...

...HATING ME...

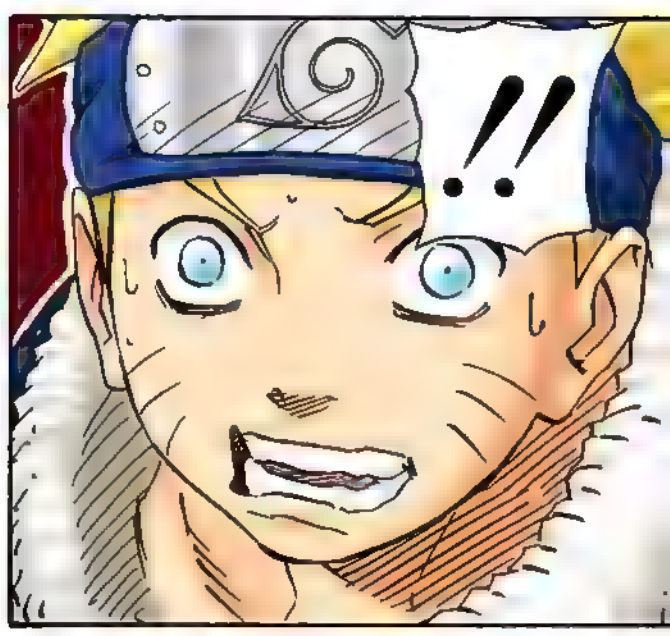
...SETTLE FOR...

...JUST AS YOU TOLD ME TO... I'VE RESENTED AND HATED YOU...

AND LIVED SOLELY...



...TO KILL YOU!!



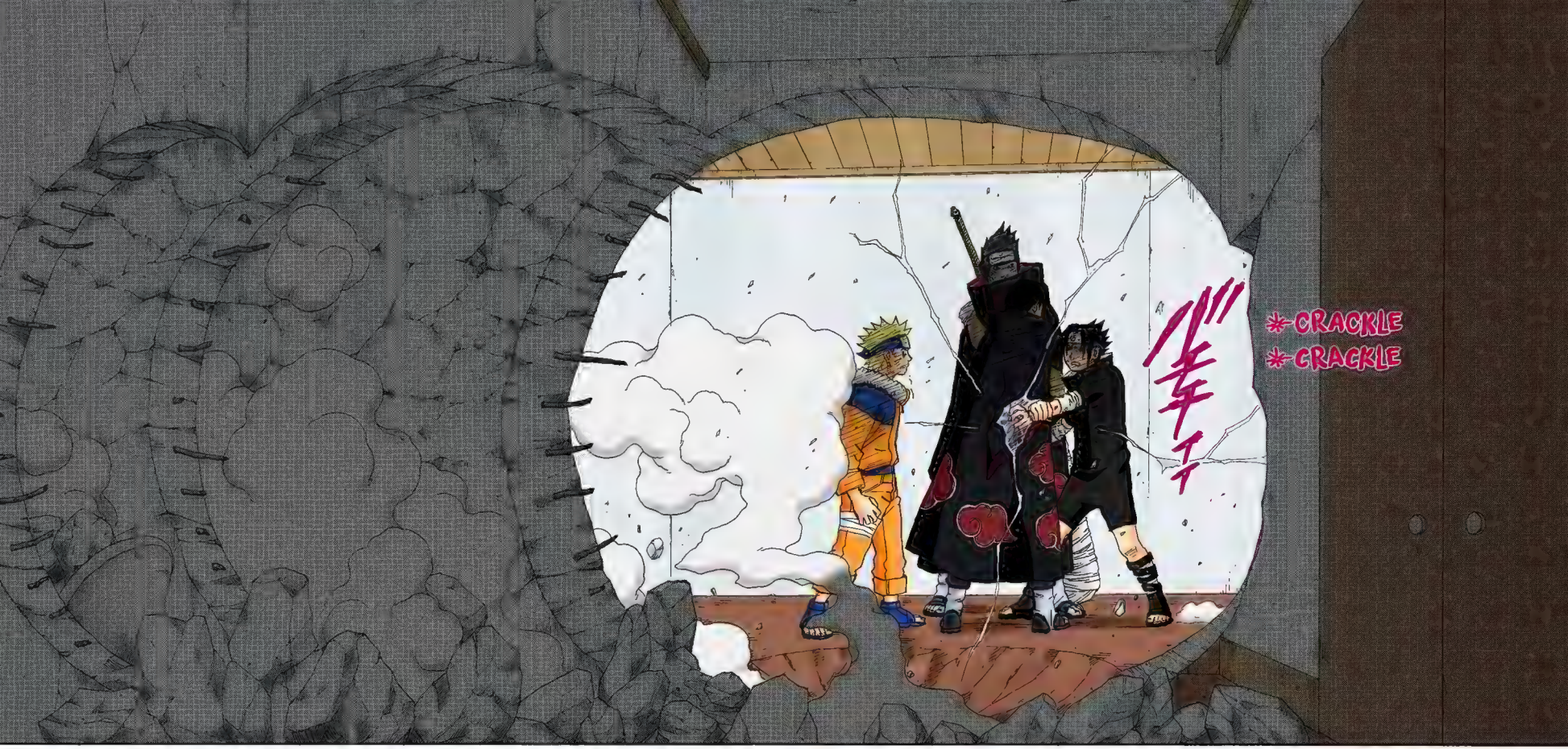
KA
KA

*CRACK CRACK CRACK *CHIRP CHIRP CHIRP

RRRRROAR

*WHIP

*CLASH



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SHOOT!!

I GOTTA DO SOMETHING!

UNNNNNH!

THE POWER OF THE NINE-TAILED FOX!

THE AIR IS RIPE WITH CHAKRA. THERE'S NO MISTAKE.

!

!!

YOU'RE IN THE WAY.

YOU...!!

*SHMP

SASUKE!!

AAAARGH!!!!

*OH!

!?

TOO SLOW!

SHOOM

KUCHIYOSE! SUMMONING-

ARGH!!

*REEEE
PEEPEE

ARGH! ARGH!

WHAT'S GOING ON?!

I CAN'T FEEL...MY CHAKRA?

HUH..?

*SQUEAK *SQUEAK

CUTS THROUGH... AND DEVOURS CHAKRA, TOO!

ハキュキュ

*RUSTLE
*RUSTLE

カサカサ

*WHISPER
*WHISPER

ゴゾ

MY SAMEHADA..

FORGET THOSE LEGS, MAYBE I SHOULD START WITH THOSE ARMS.

ﾌｧｻｯ

*SWIP

WE DON'T NEED THIS KID WHIPPING OUT ANY MORE JUTSU.

!

*URRRRR!

*KACHINK!

!

!!

ボフ

*POP!

THE TOAD SAGE JIRAIYA FALLS VICTIM TO NO WOMAN'S CHARM.

BEAUTIES DROP FOR ME LIKE BLOSSOMS IN A STORM!

YOU DON'T KNOW ME AT ALL. YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE YOUR HOMEWORK.

WHEN YOU GET TO MY LEVEL, THE WOMEN ARE THE ONES WHO WRITHE AT MY CHARM!!

A MAN LIKE ME ISN'T WIRED TO JUST BLINDLY FOLLOW A WOMAN LIKE A DOG!

REEE

ナンバー

147 : IT'S MY FIGHT!!

.....

.....

.....

THIS IS NO TIME TO BE ACTING SO HIGH AND MIGHTY, PERVY SAGE!!

YEAH RIGHT! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GOT EXCITED WHEN A WOMAN WINKED AT YOU!

UGH..

WE'VE GOT WORSE THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT THAN WHAT THESE GUYS THINK OF YOU!

GET ON WITH IT, PERVY SAGE!!

ARGH!! I REALLY WISH YOU WOULDN'T CALL ME THAT IN FRONT OF OTHER PEOPLE!

...

!

NO MATTER HOW MUCH OF AN UNRIVALED WOMAN-CHASER YOU ARE, I DIDN'T THINK OUR DELAYING TACTIC WOULD SUCCEED THAT EASILY, BUT...

CACKLE CACKLE...

AAH, LORD JIRAIYA, TOUTED AS ONE OF THE LEGENDARY THREE GREAT SHINOBI.

IT SEEMS YOU'VE UNDONE THE GENJUTSU WE PLACED ON THAT WOMAN.

...ER, THAT'S NOT REALLY MY TRUE IDENTITY...

WHAT, YOU EVEN KNOW PERVY SAGE'S TRUE IDENTITY?!

...

SHP

BAM

PLACING A HYPNOTISM GENJUTSU ON A WOMAN TO SEPARATE ME FROM NARUTO..

WHAT KIND OF COWARD WOULD DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

SEPARATE US... BUT WHY?

.....

!! .....

I KNOW HE'S THE ONE YOU'RE REALLY AFTER.

.....

.....!?

.....

I SEE... SO YOU WERE HIS INFOR-MATION SOURCE.

...NOW I KNOW HOW KAKASHI KNEW.

TO TAKE NARUTO WITH US..

...IS THE SUPREME ORDER GIVEN UNTO US BY THE AKATSUKI.

……

……

……

……

PUFF

I'LL JUST TAKE CARE OF THE TWO OF YOU RIGHT HERE!

FINE, JUST AS WELL...

SORRY, CAN'T GIVE YOU NARUTO.

REALLY..

...STAY OUT OF THIS.

*BAP...

*DOINK

!!

!

.....!

.....

GO AWAY... I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO INTEREST IN YOU.

HUF

URR

HUF

IS ME...!

...THE ONLY ONE WHO'LL DO ANY ELIMINATING

*SHF

!!

SASUKE!!

*SKRRRR

*WHEEE

YEAGGH!!

ARGH!

*BAM

...DON'T BUTT IN! MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!!!

NARUTO!!

*DOINK

AT THIS POINT, HE SHOULD NO LONGER BE ABLE TO WEAVE SIGNS...

.....

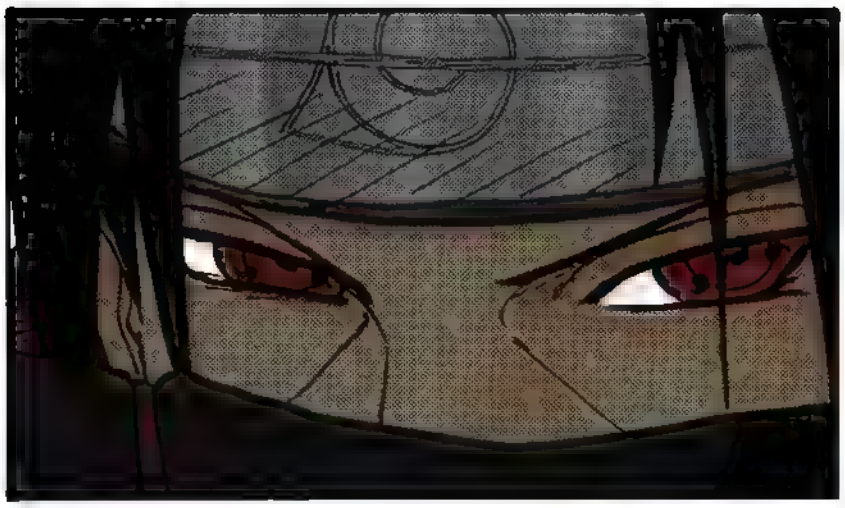
QUIVER QUIVER

ビクッ

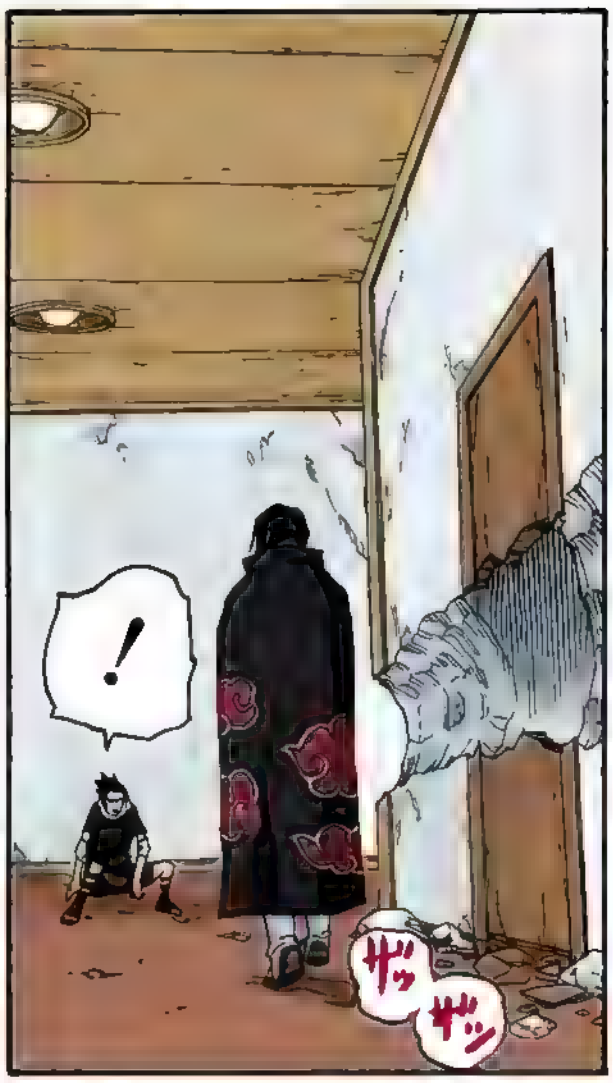
ビクッ

*FREEZE

THIS IS MY FIGHT!!!



*TMP


!
ザッ
ザッ

REVENGE, HUH?
……

*WHEEE
YOU'RE MINE!!!

UGH!!

*THUD

ARGH!!

*THWACK

WH-
WHY...?

.....

.....

*GNASH GNASH

GAH!!

*THUD

HACK!!

THAT DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE SHRUNK AT ALL...

SINCE THAT DAY...?

WHAT IS THIS GAP...

由

.....

UGH...

NO MERCY, EH?

WHAT HAVE I BEEN DOING...

...ALL THIS TIME!!?

*CHOKE

ズズズ

ガッ

*HUNH

WHAT...

..IN THE WORLD..

*GAPE

!!

YOU ARE WEAK ...

!?

FOR THE NEXT 24 HOURS... RELIVE THAT DAY.

ﾆｷｭｯ

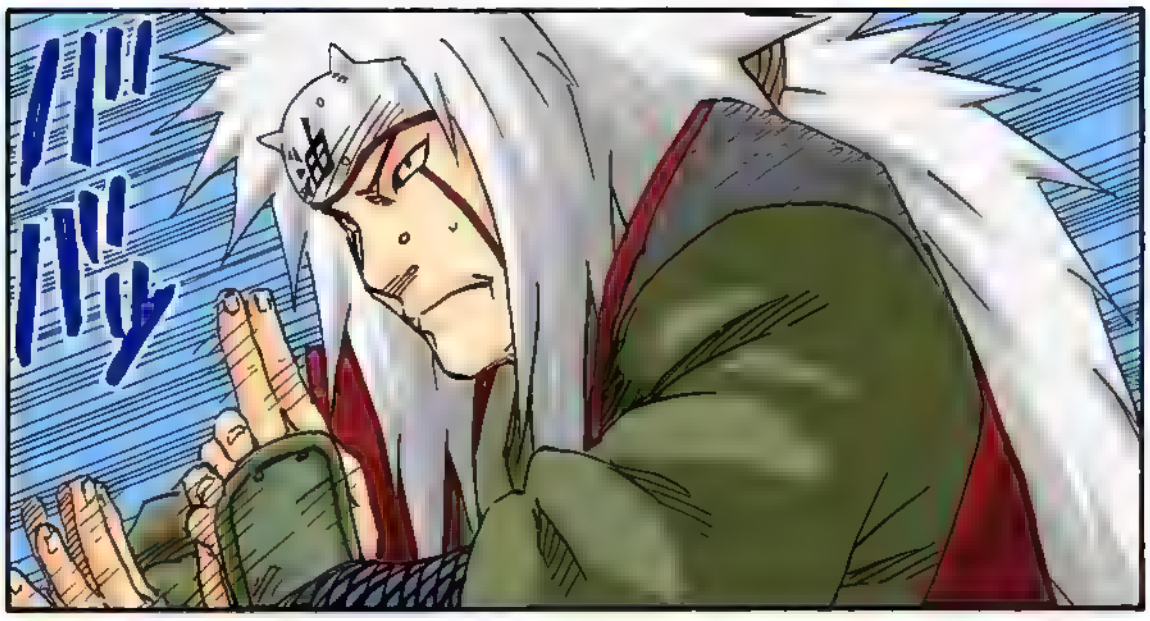
*SLASH

ITACHI,

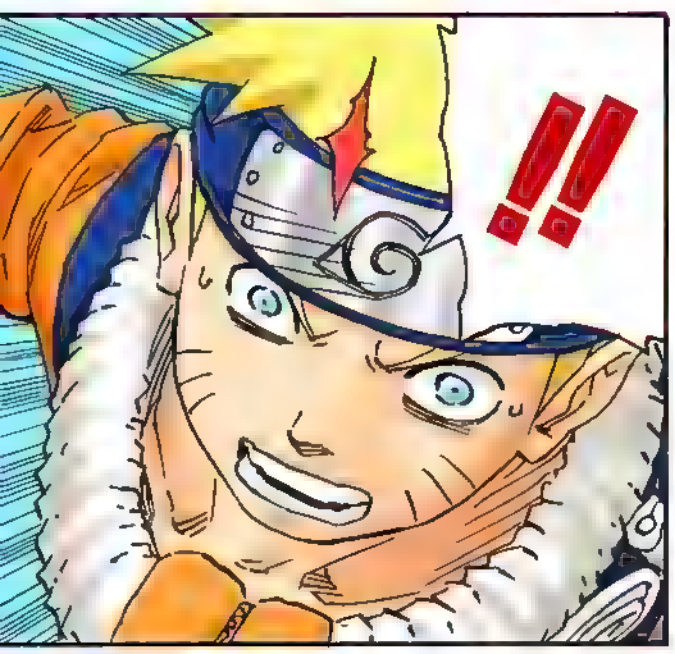
I DON'T THINK IT'S WISE TO USE THAT EYE SO MANY TIMES IN ONE DAY.

WAAA

*SFH *SFH



*SKKKK

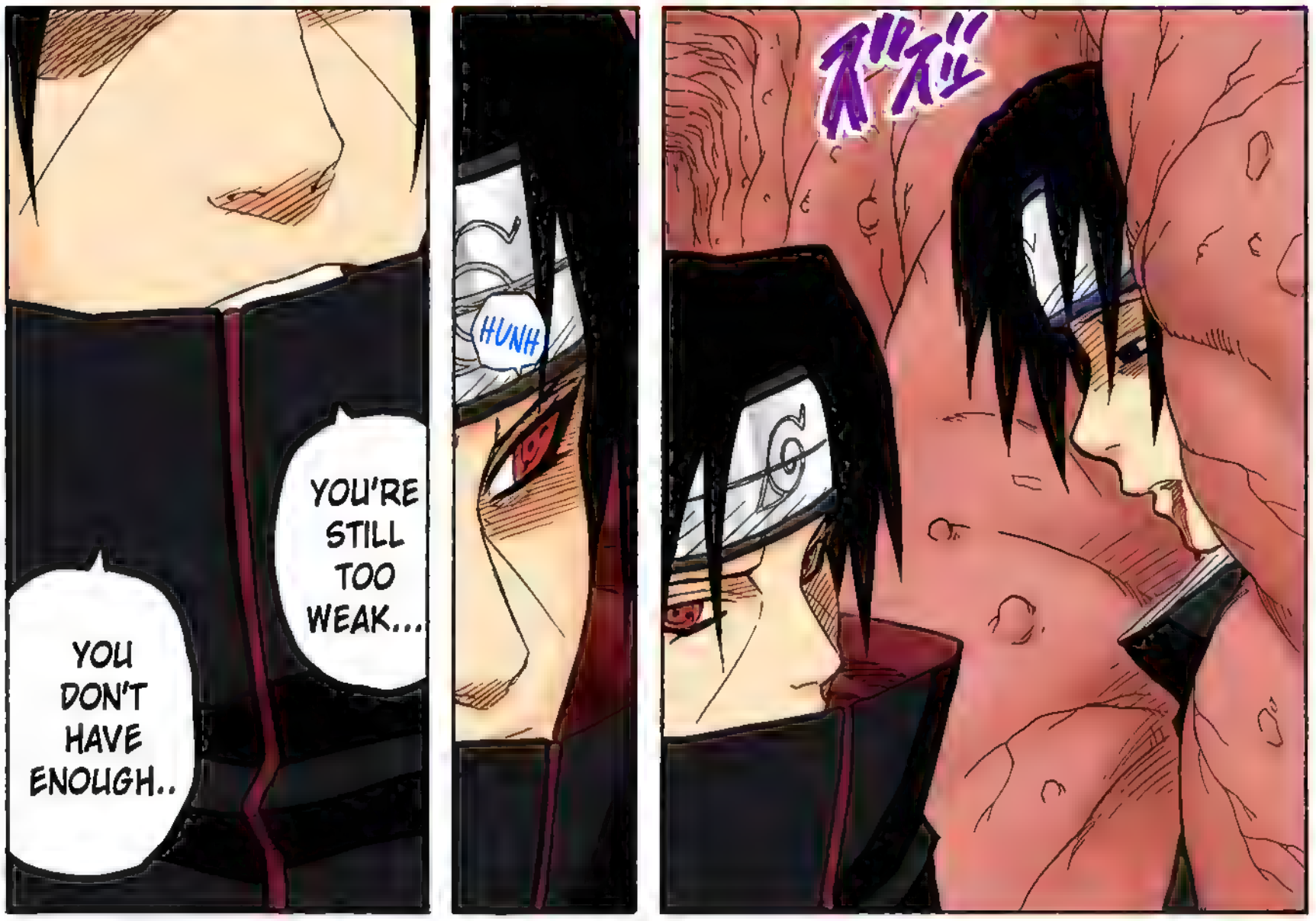


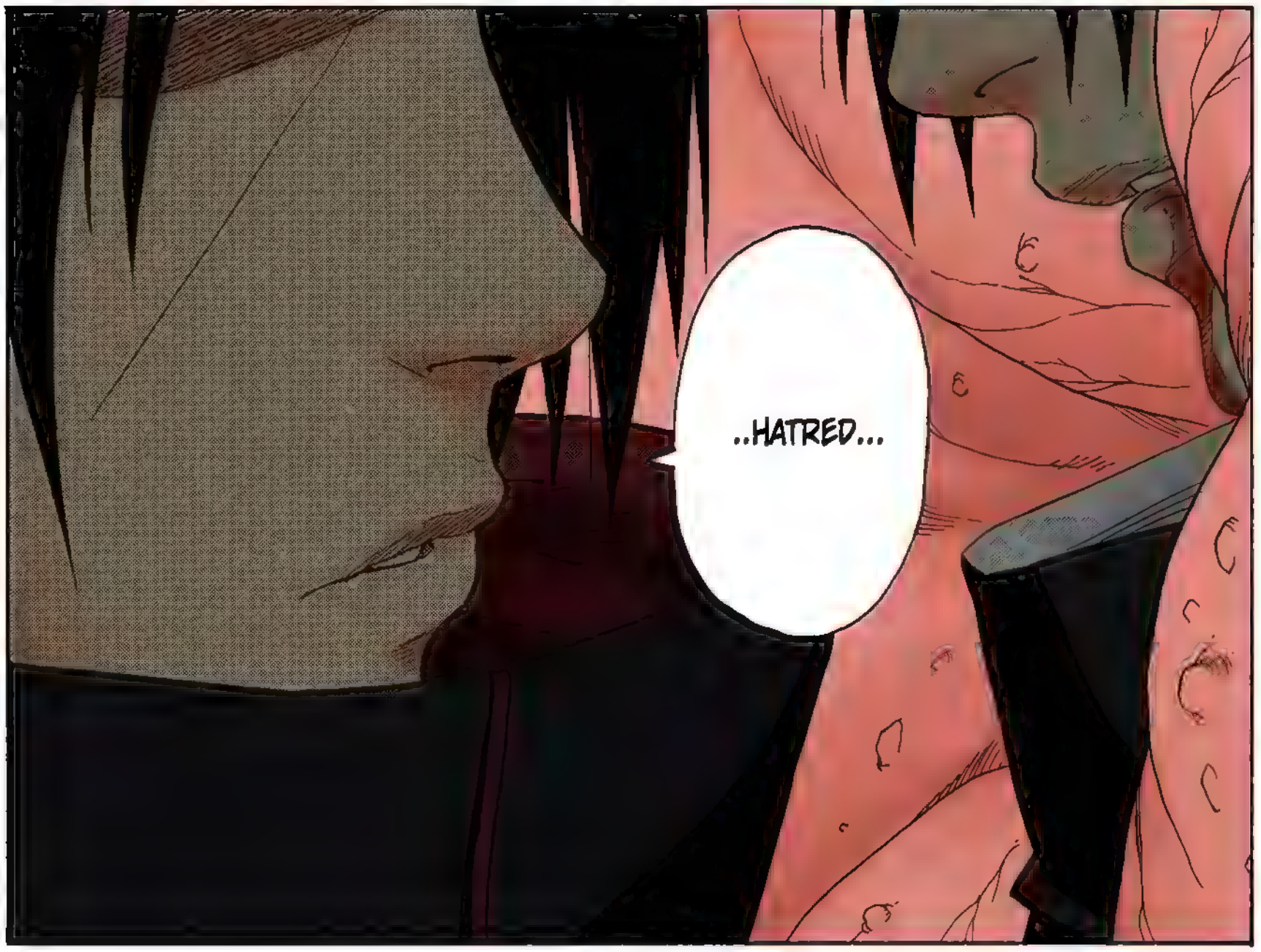
*SHOO

*VOOOOSH
ズズズ
*OOOSH ズ"
YOU TRULY CAN'T ESCAPE ME NOW, YOU ARE IN ME!
TOO BAD, ITACHI... AND KISAME.
ズ"ズ"ズ"
*HUNH
!
*SSHUF
ズ"ズ"
!
*SSSSF
ズ"ズ"ズ"ズ"
*SHA
NINJA ART! GAMA-GUCHI SHIBARI! TOAD MOUTH TRAP.

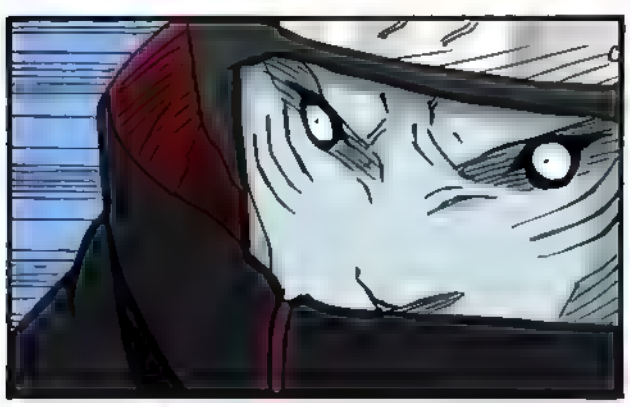
*ITACHI'S POWER!!

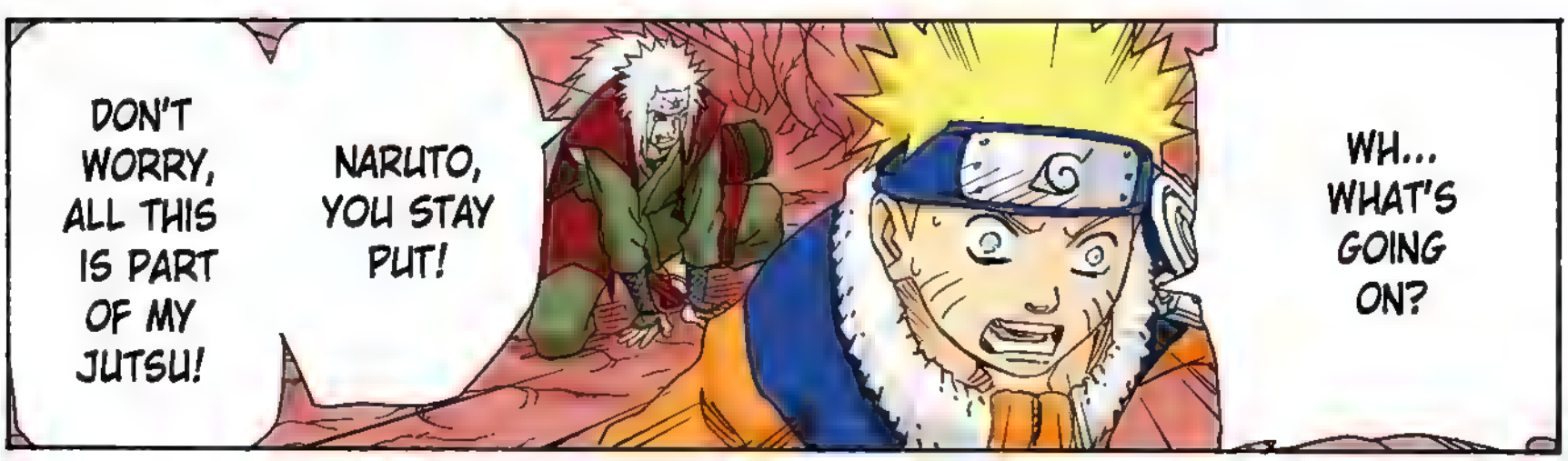
ナンバー 148：イタチの能力!! *FFLUP





ナンバー148：イタチの能力(ちから)!!





*WHOO

ザッ

KISAME, LET'S GO!

ザッ

HMPH!

URRK

ザッザッ

*SPLECH *SPLECH

*DSSSH

!

OH!

*SMOOSH

ガッ!!

NO ONE'S EVER SUCCESSFULY ESCAPED FROM THIS!

*RRRRRR RM RRBL

XII XII

HH

*SHOOM

*LOOOOOM

XIIIXII

*LOOOOOM

XII XII

THE WALLS ARE CLOSING IN ON US...!!

*THACK

!

DON'T LOOK NOW BUT THERE'S A WALL OF FLESH COMING AFTER US...

GRRR

.....

!!

DSSSH

*SHOO

WHAT'S THE MATTER?!

!!

*HUNH

!

*SCREEECH

*SPUTTER

酒

ジュワッ

THEY'RE GONE!

HEY!!

THEY'RE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO BURST THROUGH THIS WALL...

*SPLASH

...WITH YOUR POWER..

WHY DID WE HAVE TO RETREAT?

*SPLASH

*SPLASH

THE NIGHT-MARE REALM, BUT ALSO THE AMATERASU AS WELL...

WHIR

...BESIDES WHICH, I MUST ALSO... REST MY BODY IN ONE PLACE FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

THERE'S NO NEED TO BE IMPATIENT... NONE.

FOR NOT ONLY WAS I FORCED TO USE TSUKUYOMI,

HUF

HUF

*FLICKER *FLICKER *FLICKER

酒

メラ

メラ

メラ

THE ROCK TOAD NORMALLY SPEWS FIRE HIMSELF, SO FOR HIS NATURALLY FIREPROOF INNARDS TO GET CHARRED...

HOW DID THEY GET OUT? ...AND WHAT ARE THESE BLACK FLAMES?

*SLMP

ズ

WHAT'S UP WITH THESE FLAMES? THEY'RE BLACK..

*GRRR

EH?!

DON'T GO NEAR THEM WITHOUT CAUTION!

ALRIGHT!

*SCRIBBLE *SCRIBBLE *SCRIBBLE *SCRIBBLE

カキ カキ カキ カキ

?

*STAMP

FIRE SEAL!!

*FWIP *FWIP

SEALING JUTSU!

油

*SLURRRRRRRP

WHOA!!

*YANK

キュッ!

……!

SASUKE!

タッ
タッ

*KOOSH...

*TROT *TROT

*SHWUP

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS SASUKE.

!

ARIGHT! NOW WE'RE GOOD TO GO.

ﾂｯ

*STOMP

*BUMP

ﾊﾝ

ﾊﾝ

!

!!

SHOCK

*TMP

H!!

*THOCK

*SHAROOM

DYNAMIC ENTRY!!

!!?

GUY...?!

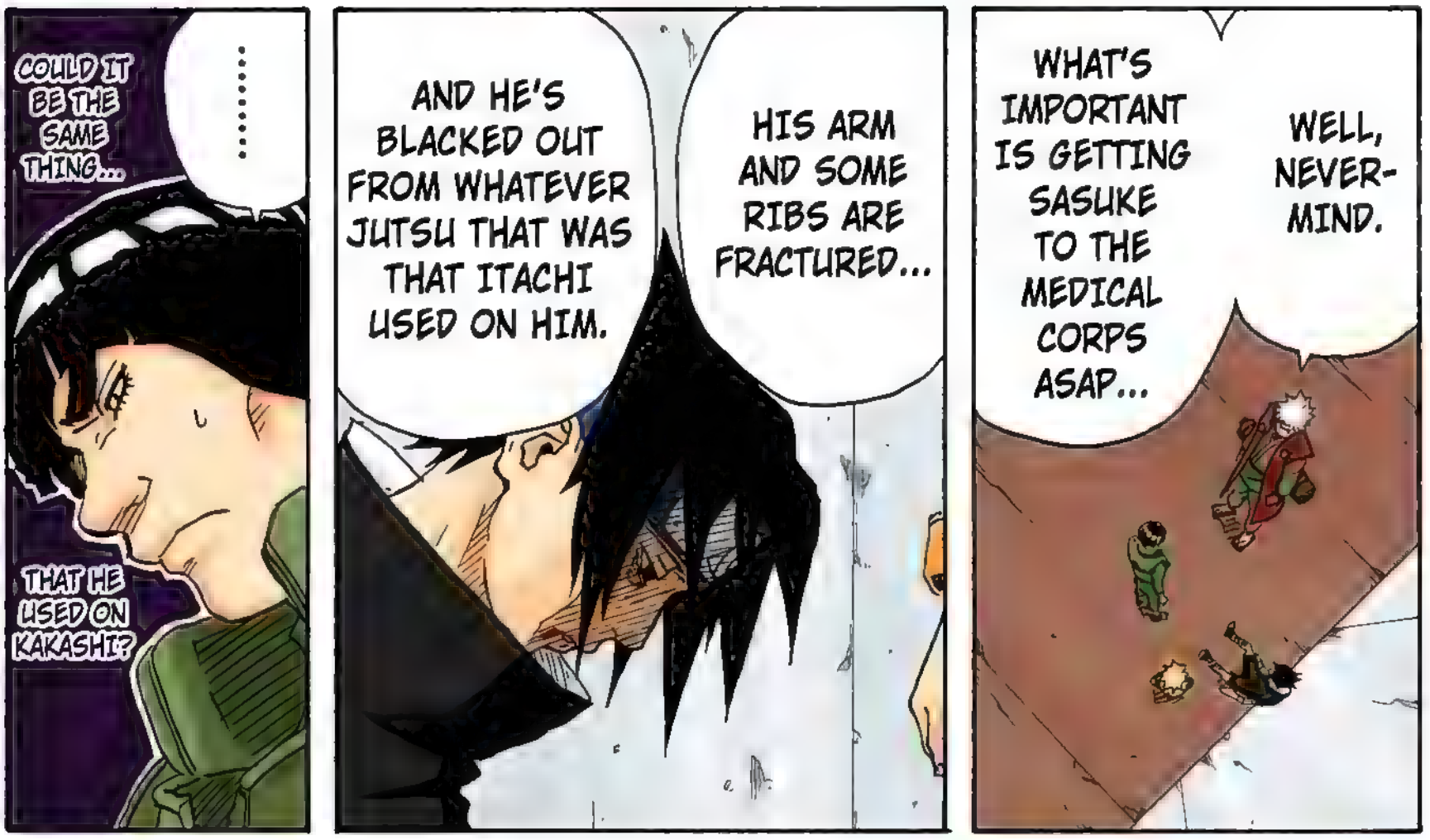
*SLAM

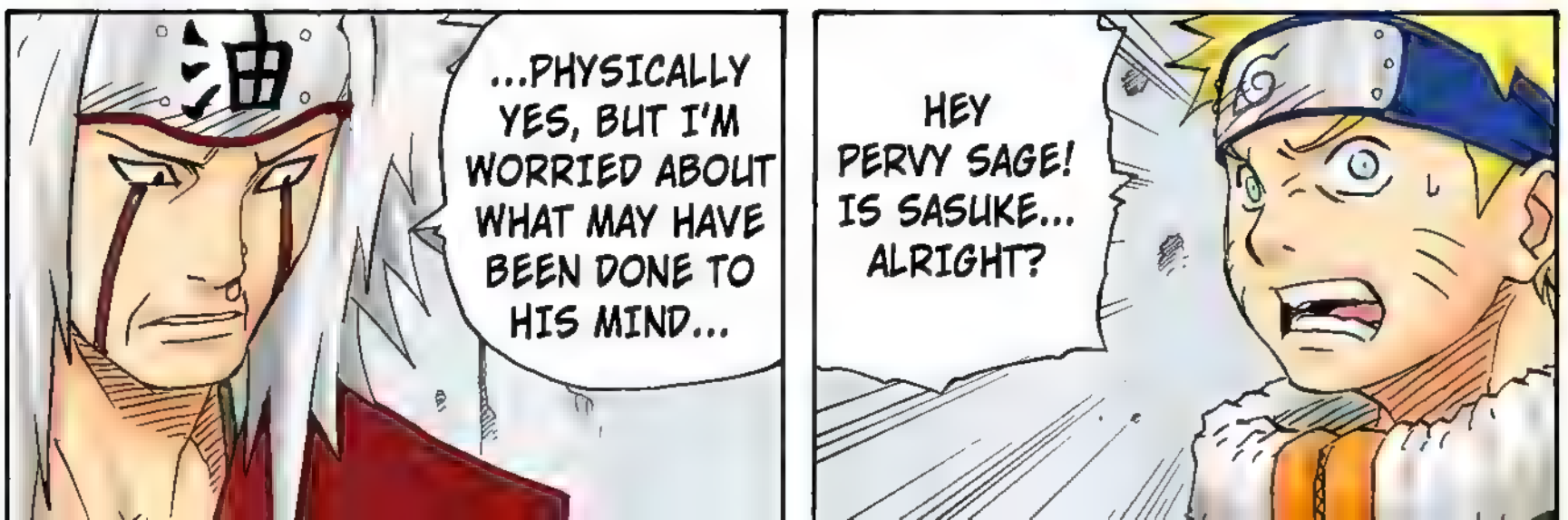
...HUH?

*PF

ムズ…

HEY... IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE AN APOLOGY?
OH MY... I'M SO SORRY... I WAS IN SUCH A RUSH I FORGOT MY HAND MIRROR.. HA HA...
SO I USED MY HEADBAND INSTEAD, BUT IT DIDN'T GIVE ME THE CLEAREST IMAGE AND I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE ENEMY...


COULD IT BE THE SAME THING...
.....
THAT HE USED ON KAKASHI?
AND HE'S BLACKED OUT FROM WHATEVER JUTSU THAT WAS THAT ITACHI USED ON HIM.
HIS ARM AND SOME RIBS ARE FRACTURED...
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS GETTING SASUKE TO THE MEDICAL CORPS ASAP...
WELL, NEVER-MIND.


...PHYSICALLY YES, BUT I'M WORRIED ABOUT WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN DONE TO HIS MIND...
HEY PERVY SAGE! IS SASUKE... ALRIGHT?

Ttttt...

*CLENCH

WHAT... WHAT DID SASUKE DO TO DESERVE THIS?!

GAH...!

I SWEAR I'LL HUNT THOSE BLACK-CAPED CROOKS DOWN AND BEAT THEM UP!!

I WAS FREAKED EARLIER, BUT THIS TIME...

HEY PERVY SAGE!

CHANGE OF PLANS...!

THEY'VE GOT SOME BUSINESS WITH ME, RIGHT?!

WELL, I'LL GO SEE THEM THEN!!

I MEAN, IT EVEN TOOK ME A HUGE EFFORT JUST NOW ...

... JUST TO DISTANCE THEM FROM YOU...

HUMPH. IF YOU GO NOW, YOU'LL JUST BE KILLED...

THERE'S TOO MUCH OF A GAP BETWEEN YOU AND THEM.

LIVE EACH DAY SHIVERING IN FEAR?!!

ARE YOU SAYING THAT I HAVE TO KEEP RUNNING AND HIDING FROM THEM FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE?!

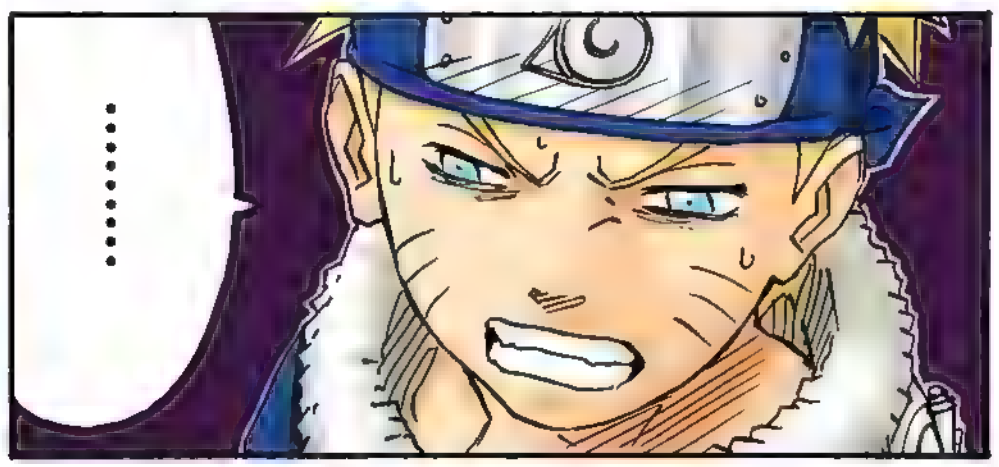
ヒィッ

!

SHUT YOUR MOUTH.

ゴゴゴ

...YOU ARE STILL WEAK.


.....

I SHOULD HAVE STEPPED IN SOONER...
FORGIVE ME, GUY... I WAS TRYING TO HONOR THIS BOY'S FEELINGS, BUT...

.....

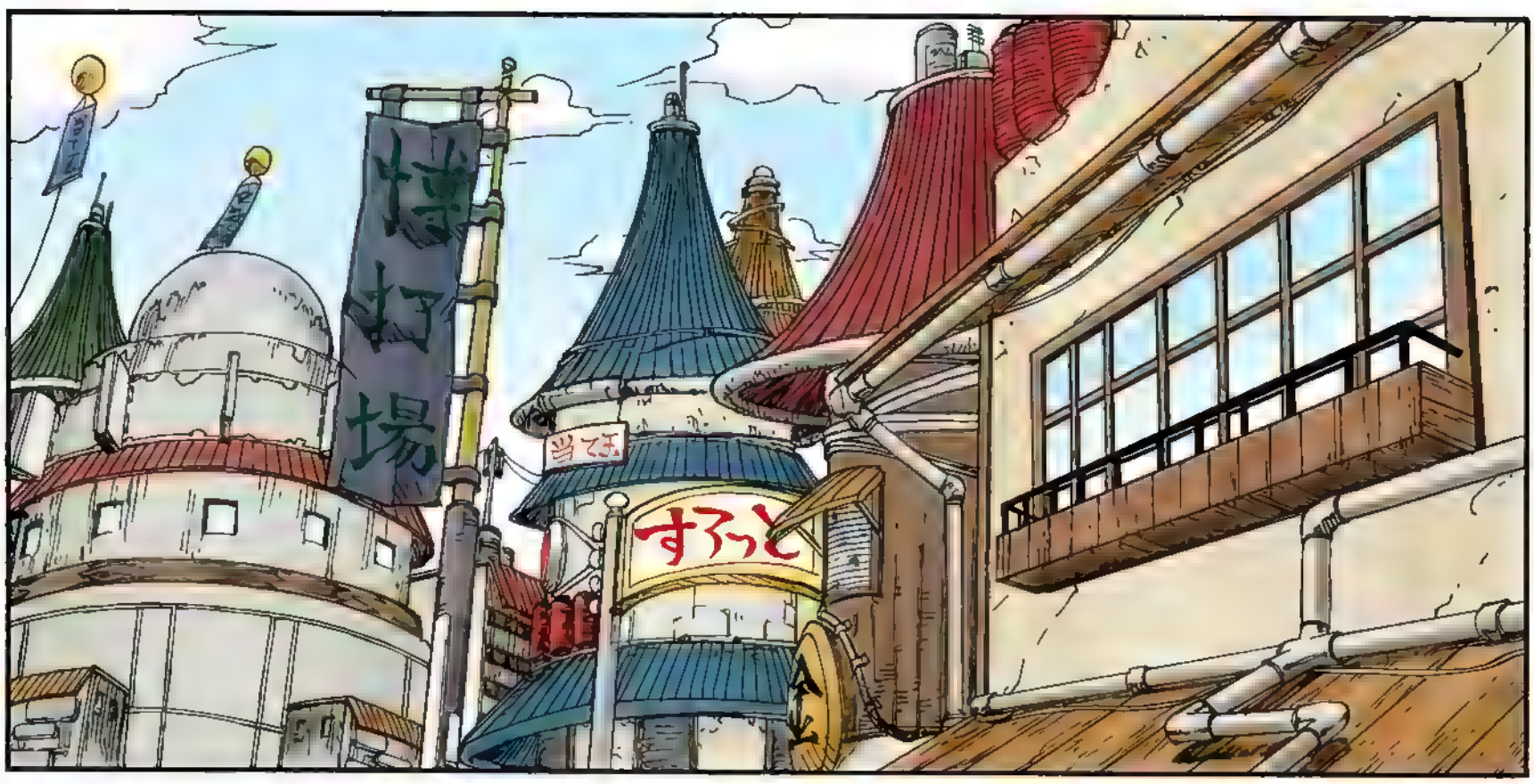
KAKASHI-SENSEI?!

...RIGHT NOW... KAKASHI'S ALSO BEDRIDDEN FROM THIS SAME JUTSU... AND WE DON'T KNOW WHEN HE'LL WAKE UP...

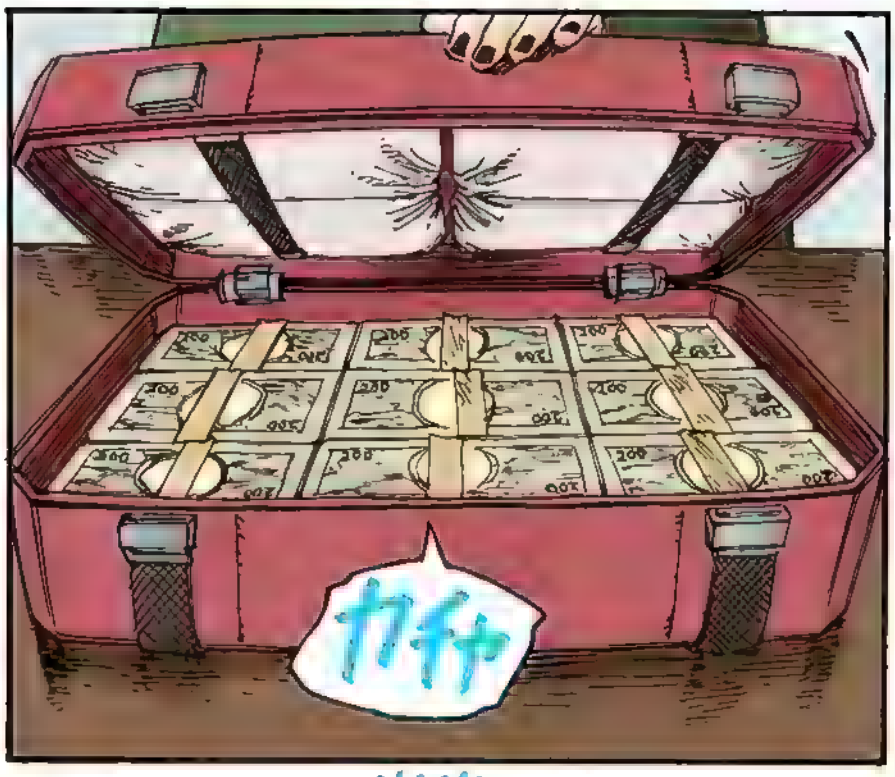
.....

THAT *THAT* MEDICAL SPECIALIST WERE STILL HERE WITH US...

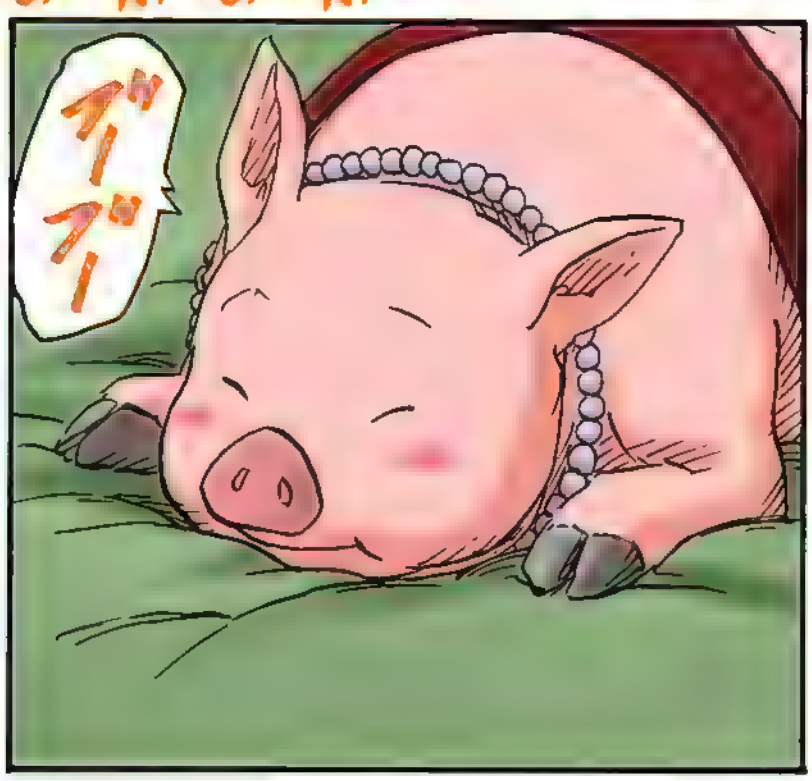
WITH MY PUPIL INJURED... AND DURING TIMES SUCH AS THESE, I TRULY WISH...



*SNORT *SNORT



*CLICK



...THAT'S WHY... I'M ABOUT TO GO SEARCH FOR *HER*.

*STUTTER PE PE

...AH, AIEE!

WH... WHERE'D THAT MONEY COME FROM?!

I BORROWED IT!

YOU MEAN... YOU'RE REALLY...

?

THE THIRD OF THE SANNIN.

THE QUEEN OF SLUGS AND EXLIRS...

油

ALRIGHTY!

THE ONE WHO WEARS "BETTING" ON HER BACK, PRINCESS TSUNADE.

賭

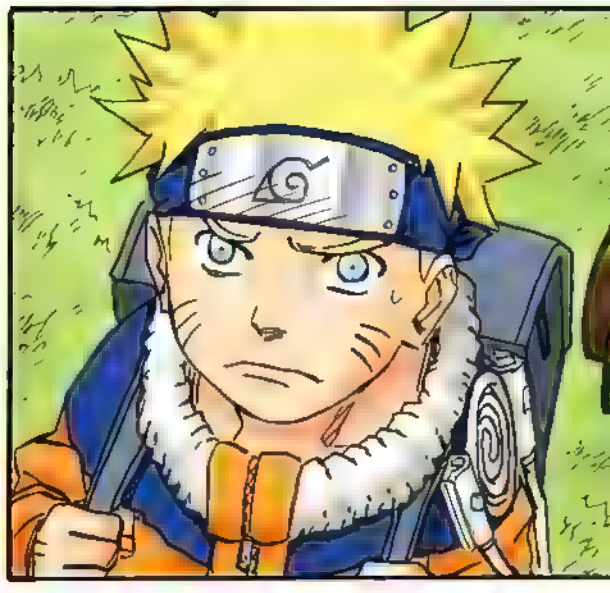
WITH THIS, I'M NOT JUST GOING TO WIN BACK MY LOSSES, BUT FLIP MY FORTUNES AS WELL!!

THE LEGENDARY...!!

ナンバー 149：伝説(でんせつ)の…!!

宿
ファンファン通り
女
魂斗屋
大

……



PLEASE DO...
FIND AND BRING BACK LADY TSUNADE.

LORD JIRAIYA ...
!

SO TAKE GOOD CARE OF SASUKE UNTIL THEN! MASTER ÜBERBROWS!!

I PROMISE WE'LL FIND HER AND BRING HER BACK RIGHT AWAY!

-SPARKLE

キラーン

WELL THEN, GUY.

I'M LEAVING SASUKE IN YOUR HANDS.

!

PAT

.....

OH! WHAT IS IT!? WHAT IS IT!?

THIS HELPED LEE GET STRONGER...

?

LET ME GIVE YOU THIS!

NOTHING INTRIGUES ME MORE THAN GUTS, KID!

SHFFLE SHFFLE

!

.....

IF YOU WEAR IT WHILE YOU TRAIN, YOU'LL NOTICE THE DIFFERENCE *IMMEDIATELY!*

IT'S BREATHABLE, RETAINS MOISTURE, AND OFFERS COMPLETE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT ALL IN ONE SWEET PACKAGE!!

WOW!!

SOON, YOU'LL START WANTING TO WEAR IT ALL THE TIME, JUST LIKE LEE!! I'VE GOT A BIT OF A THING FOR IT M'SELF!!

IF YOU CAN WALK AROUND CARRYING *THAT* THING, YOU OUGHT TO PACK A HAND MIRROR OR TWO, YOU IDIOT.

THIS!!!

*TAA—DAA

DON'T... TELL ME YOU'RE PLANNING TO WEAR THAT THING?
JUST DON'T.
MAN, THAT IS GOOFY.
WHADDYA THINK...?
バイナラ

*BYE-YA!

AIEE!

WILL YOU STOP FREAKING OUT. C-MON I'M GOING IN...

FALIP

Y...YOU HAD TO CHOOSE THE ESTA-BLISHMENT WITH THE HIGHEST ANTE...!!

元老院

美留

乱素

イカサマ禁止!!

...

HMM?!

SH... SHE'S THE...!

!

.....

I KNOW HE'S THE ONE YOU'RE REALLY AFTER.

TO TAKE NARUTO WITH US...

...IS THE SUPREME ORDER GIVEN UNTO US BY OUR ORGANIZATION, AKATSUKI.

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

!

.....

WHY... DO THEY WANT ME...?

...PERVY SAGE...

WHAT'S GOING ON...

...YOU KNOW TOO, DON'T YOU?!

.....

...IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE YOU.

IT'S NOT YOU THEY WANT...

.....

...WHAT IS THIS THING...

PAT

*CLENCH

.....

THAT'S WHY EVERYONE FEARED HIM... SO WHY DO THESE GUYS WANT IT SO BAD...?

...SOME HORRIBLE DEMON THAT ATTACKED KONOHA-GAKURE...?

...DESTROYING EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH.

INDEED... THE NINE-TAILED FOX HAS APPEARED IN TIMES OF CONSEQUENCE ALL THROUGH THE AGES. IT'S A GHASTLY SPIRIT...

THAT'S WHY PEOPLE IN ANCIENT TIMES FEARED IT AS ONE OF THE DIVINE RETRIBUTIONS.

.....

.....

AND WHY THEY WANT SUCH A THING...

...I HONESTLY DON'T HAVE A CLUE YET...

.....

THEY MIGHT BE THINKING OF PLACING ITS POWER UNDER THEIR CONTROL.

WHILE THE NINE-TAILED FOX SPIRIT IS STILL SEALED INSIDE OF YOU,

.....

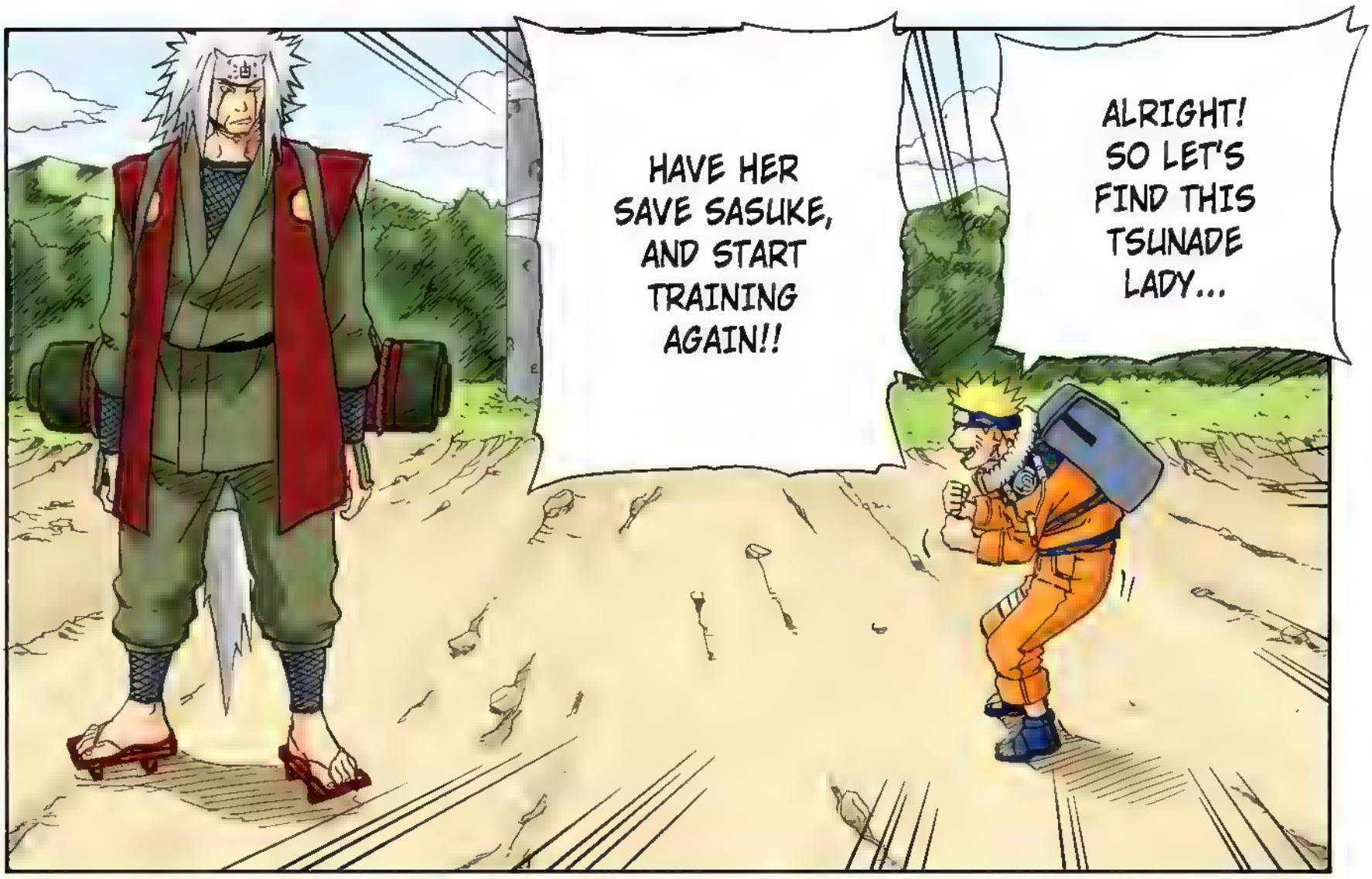
油

BUT, I'LL BE AROUND TO PROTECT YOU, SO DON'T WORRY...

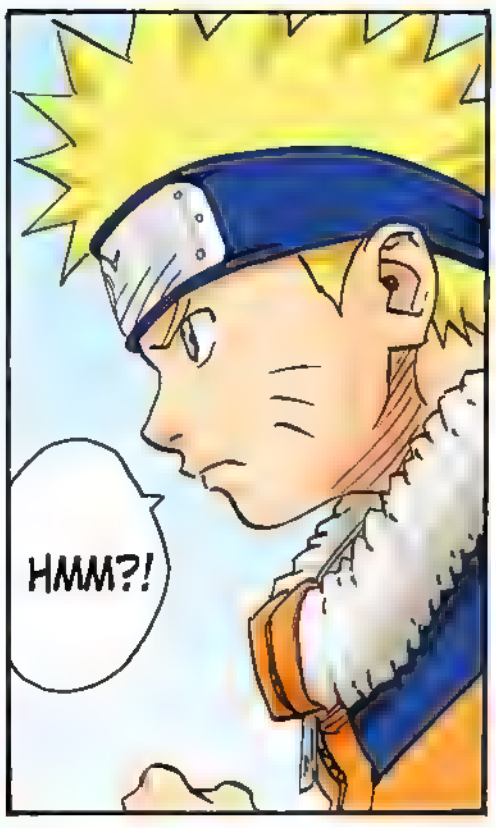
THEY'LL NEVER STOP COMING FOR YOU. IT IS YOUR DESTINY.

THEN I'VE GOT TO HURRY UP ...

... AND GET STRONGER!


HAVE HER SAVE SASUKE, AND START TRAINING AGAIN!!
ALRIGHT! SO LET'S FIND THIS TSUNADE LADY...

... WHAT?


HMM?!

THAT'S SO LIKE HIM...ONE-TRACK MIND!
HEH HEH...

HO! THAT'S PRETTY SHARP, FOR YOU.

AND SO, WHAT OF IT?

YOU AND SHE WERE BOTH PART OF THE THREE GREAT SHINOBI, WEREN'T YOU?!

YOU MEANT THIS TSUNADE?

THAT BEAUTY YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO LOOK FOR...

...HOW OLD IS SHE?

YEAH, SO?

SHE'S ANCIENT!!

SAME AS ME.

HUH? YOU INTERESTED IN HER?

*SHAKE *SHAKE

SO WHAT'S SHE LIKE?

SHE'S THE LEGENDARY...

SHE'S QUITE INFAMOUS...

*LOOM

THEN SHE'LL BE EASY TO FIND! IF SHE'S SO FAMOUS...

*SHUFFL SHUFFL

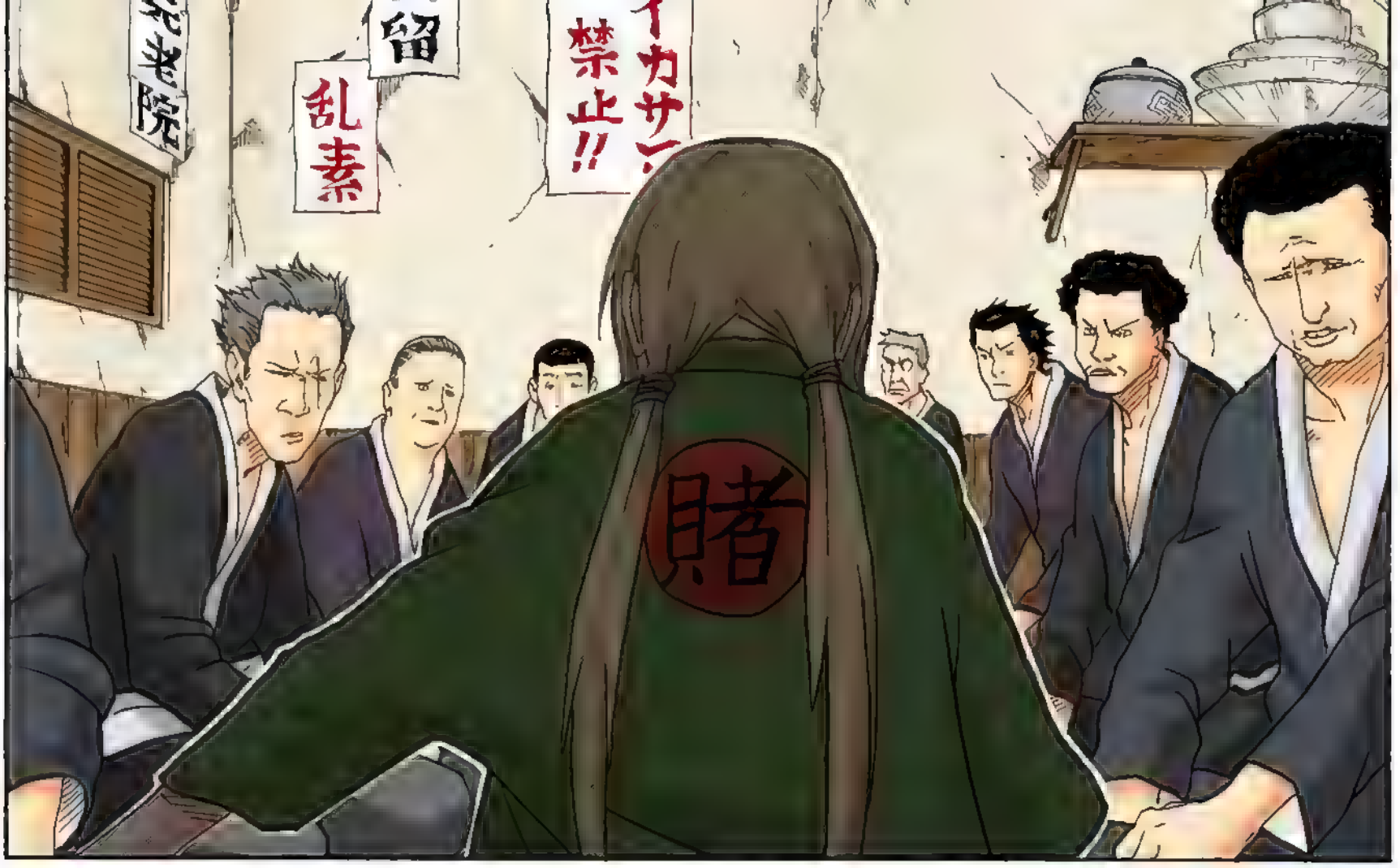
IN ONE SENTENCE, SHE'S KINDA UNPLEASANT...

HMM, LET'S SEE...

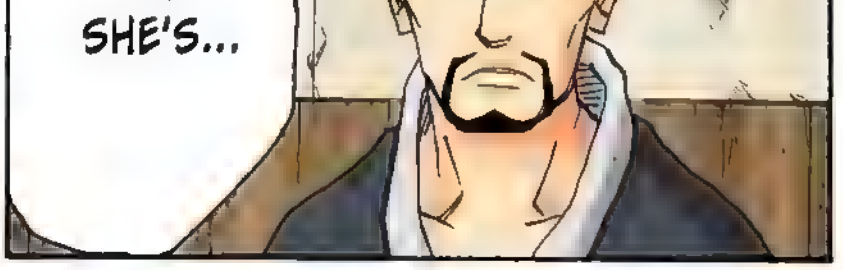
AND SHE'S ADDICTED TO GAMBLING, AND HER FACE IS WELL KNOWN IN NUMEROUS LANDS.

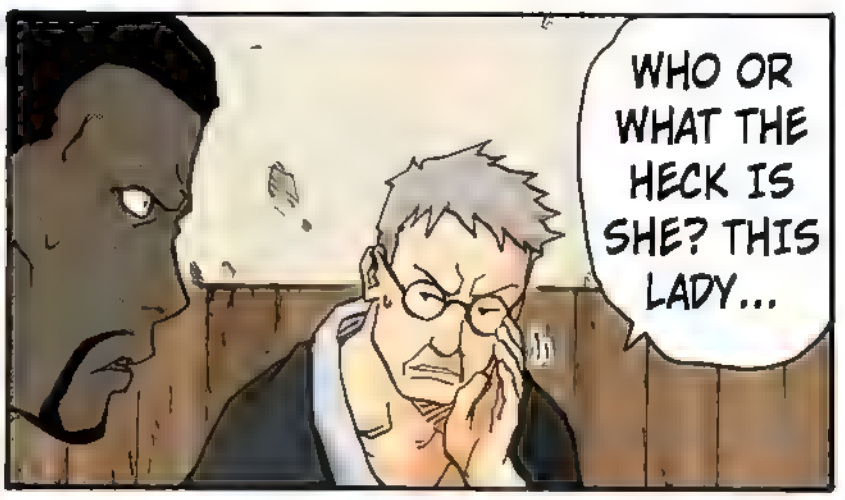
CAN YOU CHANGE ALL OF THIS CASH INTO CHIPS?

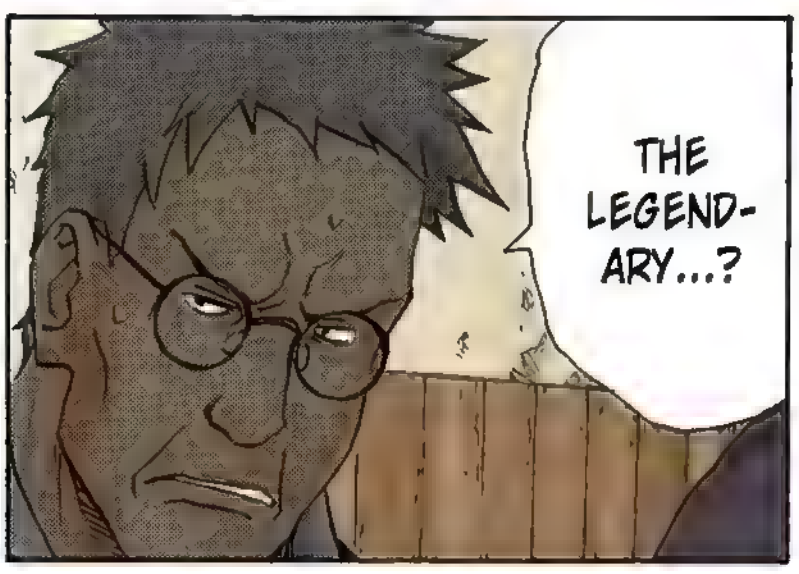
*THUMP


老院
留
乱素
禁止!!
賭者

...SHE'S... THE ONE WITH THAT NICKNAME...
YOU... DON'T KNOW OF HER...?
NICKNAME?


SH.. SHE'S...


WHO OR WHAT THE HECK IS SHE? THIS LADY...


THE LEGEND-ARY...?

THE LEGEND-ARY...

THE LEGENDARY LOSER!!

AIEE! THEY'RE ALL GLOATING ALREADY!!

SHE'S NOT THE TYPE TO GROW OLD GRACEFULLY, SO SHE'S PROBABLY USING JUTSU TO MASK HER APPEARANCE.

HMM! ...BUT NO MATTER HOW FAMOUS OR INFAMOUS SHE IS, SHE PROBABLY WON'T BE FOUND SO EASILY.

GOING FROM HER TEENS TO HER THIRTIES OR FORTIES, ALL SO SHE CAN CUT OUT ON ANY MONEYLENDERS SHE'S IN TOO DEEP WITH...

AND THAT'S NOT ALL. THE WORD I HEAR ON THE WIND OF LATE IS SHE'S STARTED TRANSFORMING ON THE FLY...

EVEN THOUGH SHE'S ACTUALLY FIFTY, SHE PROBABLY LOOKS LIKE SHE'S STILL IN HER TWENTIES...

*SHHFL *SHHFL

BUT BOTH HER LUCK AND HER SKILL ARE TOTALLY ABYSMAL...

TSUNADE'S LOVED GAMBLING SINCE SHE WAS A KID.

THAT'S TERRIBLE... YEESH.

.....

*SHHFL *SHHFL

SO, HOW DO WE HUNT HER DOWN?!

OUR ONLY CHOICE IS TO DO IT BY THE BOOK. BUT THERE ARE PLENTY OF WAYS...

油

WHO KNOWS ...

AND SO SHE'S ALWAYS IN DEBT AND ON THE RUN... WOW.

BECAUSE SHE KEPT GETTING MARKED BY EVERYONE AROUND HER, THAT NICKNAME STUCK.

THIS IS NO TIME FOR TRIPS DOWN THE MEMONY LANE, OLD MAN!

THE TIME SPENT WON'T BE A COMPLETE WASTE.

ARE YOU SAYING YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW LONG THIS IS GOING TO TAKE?!

WHAT?!

'CUZ THE WHOLE TIME WE'RE ON THE ROAD, I'M GOING TO FOCUS ON YOU!

TRAINING TIME!

IT'LL BE TIME SPENT ON MAKING YOU STRONGER ...

ME?

!!

*FASH

NO, NO... I TOLD YOU NOT THAT THING...

I DON'T WANT TO WALK NEXT TO SOMEONE WEARING THAT...

ALRIGHT!

ナンバー150：修業開始…!?

TRAINING BEGINS...?!

HURRY UP AND TEACH ME SOMETHING!!

AMBLE AMBLE

SO, HEY! HEY! PERVY SAGE!

COLLECT INTELLI-GENCE?

SHHSL SHHSL

IT WOULD BE POINTLESS TO JUST TRAIN WITHOUT COLLECTING INTELLIGENCE ON TSUNADE AT THE SAME TIME.

SHHSL SHHSL

NOW, NOW, STOP BEING SO IMPATIENT ...

ナンバー 150 ●●
修業開始(しゅぎょうかいし)……!?

IN THIS CITY.

WHOA!!

WHF

SCREEEECH

MMBL

MUR

CHATTR

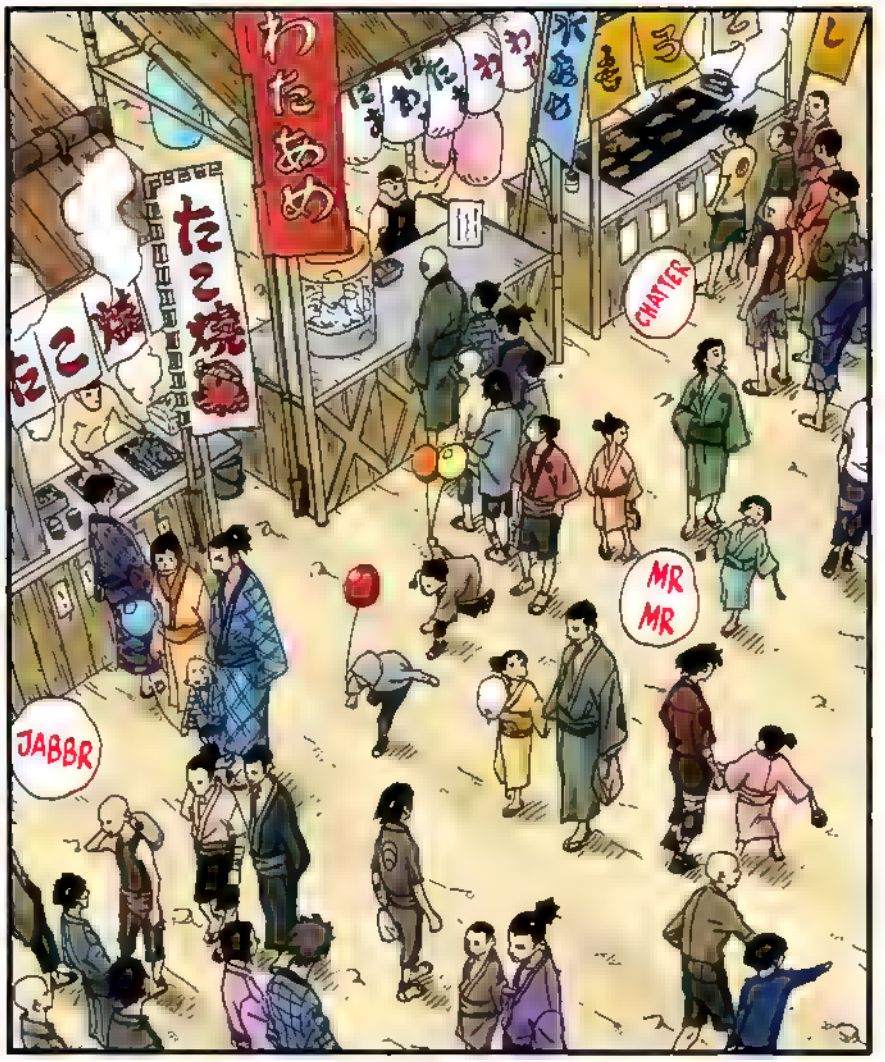
MUR

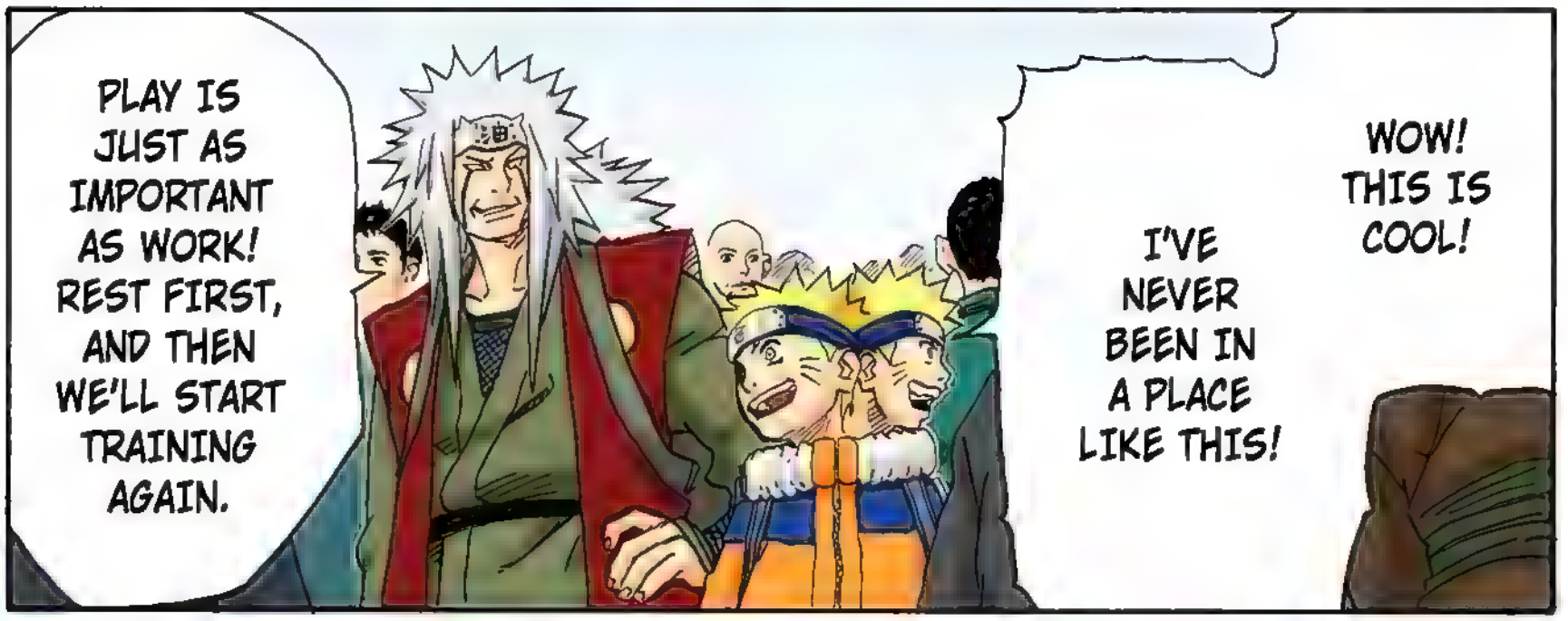
CHATTR

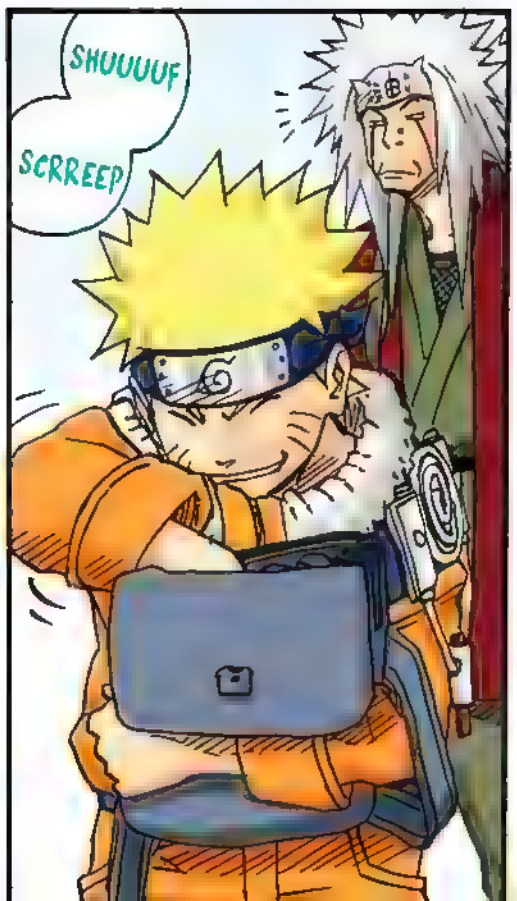
MUR

CHATTR

LOOK!
HEY!
CHATTER
CHATTER


わたあめ
たこ焼
CHATTER
MR MR
JABBR


PLAY IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS WORK! REST FIRST, AND THEN WE'LL START TRAINING AGAIN.
I'VE NEVER BEEN IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!
WOW! THIS IS COOL!


SHUUUUF
SCRREEP

WE'LL TRAIN HERE TOO.
YES!!
THIS FESTIVAL WILL PROBABLY GO FOR A WHILE, SO...
WE'LL STAY HERE WHILE IT'S GOING ON.

SHAKE SHAKE

なるとさいふ

*TA-DAA

HOLD UP! NARUTO!

SEE YA!!

!

YOU MILLIONAIRE!!

HO! YOU GOT QUITE A FORTUNE THERE!

I DO HAVE QUITE A BIT! I'VE BEEN SAVING UP FROM EACH MISSION HEH HEH HEH HEH.

(*300 RYO IS APPROXIMATELY 3000 YEN, OR 30 DOLLARS.)

DON'T YOU KNOW THE THREE PROHIBITIONS OF THE SHINOBI?!

WHAT'S WITH THE WHAT?!

THIS IS ALL YOU'RE ALLOWED TO SPEND TODAY...

I'LL BE IN CHARGE OF YOUR WALLET!

WHAT?! JUST 300 RYO*?!

AND THOSE THREE VICES ARE: DRINK, PRETTY GIRLS, AND COLD HARD CASH.

WHAT! YOU DON'T KNOW THEM?!

THE THREE PROHIBITIONS ARE THE THREE VICES THAT CAN DESTROY A SHINOBI!

THE THREE PROHIBITIONS? WHAT'S THAT?!

OR DATE!

I CAN'T DRINK!

THEN IT DOESN'T REALLY AFFECT ME!

ONCE YOU START SPENDING MONEY, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP!!

FOOL! DO NOT MOCK BEING FRUGAL.

カー!

AND I WORKED SO HARD TO SAVE THIS MUCH, I'M NOT REAL EAGER TO SPEND IT.

I'M GOING TO GO START COLLECTING INTELLIGENCE.

AND TAKE MY PACK INSTEAD! YOU CAN RELY ON MY TRACKER TOAD TO SNIFF OUT MY SCENT.

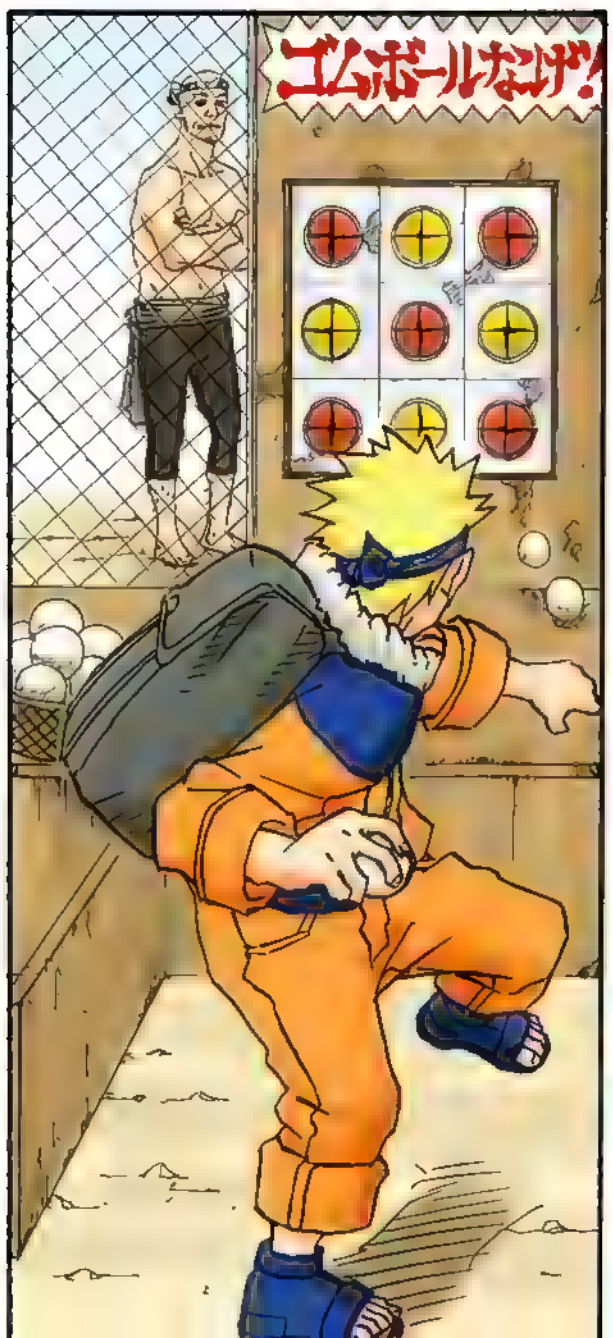
YEAH, LIKE YOU'RE IMMUNE TO VICES, PERVY SAGE!

EVEN TSUNADE, WHOM WE ARE SEARCHING FOR, IS ON THE VERGE OF SELF-DESTRUCTING FROM IT!

THE MAGICAL POWER OF MONEY IS A FEARSOME THING!

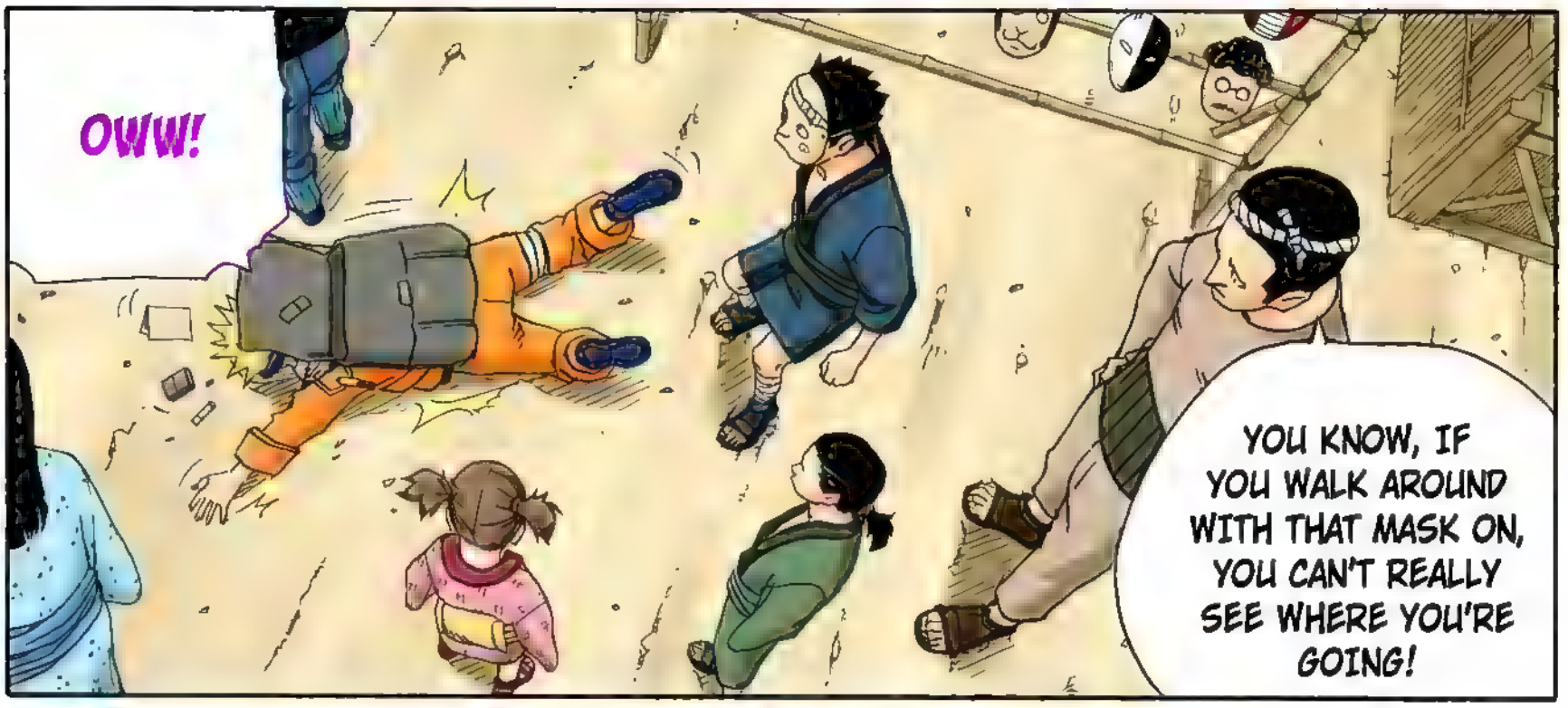
BLEH!

ガッ

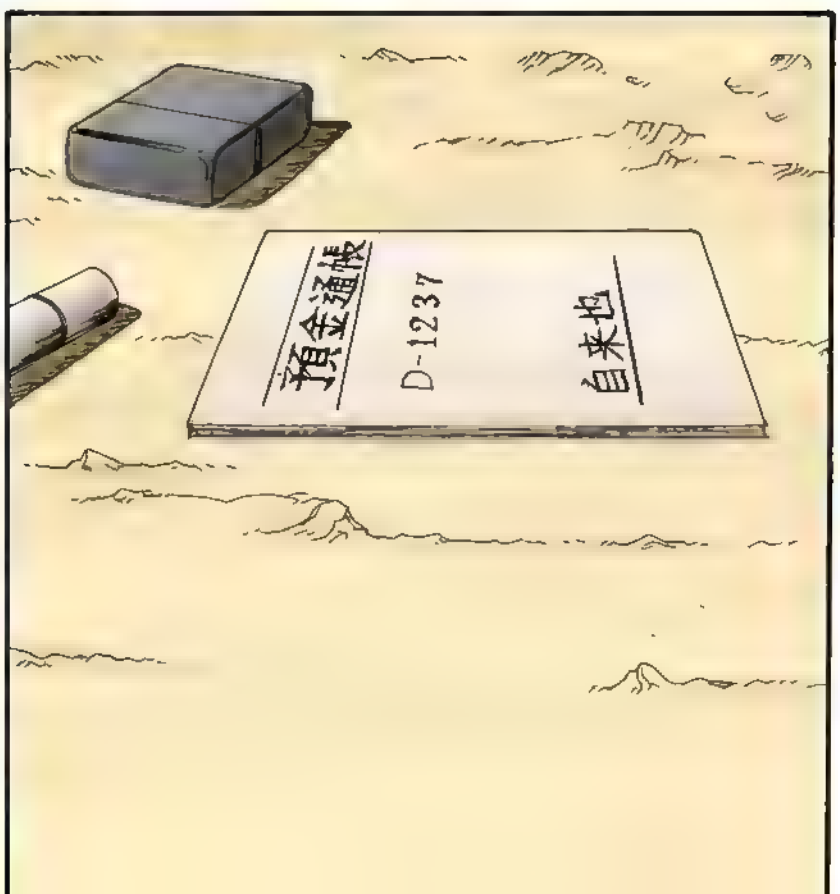


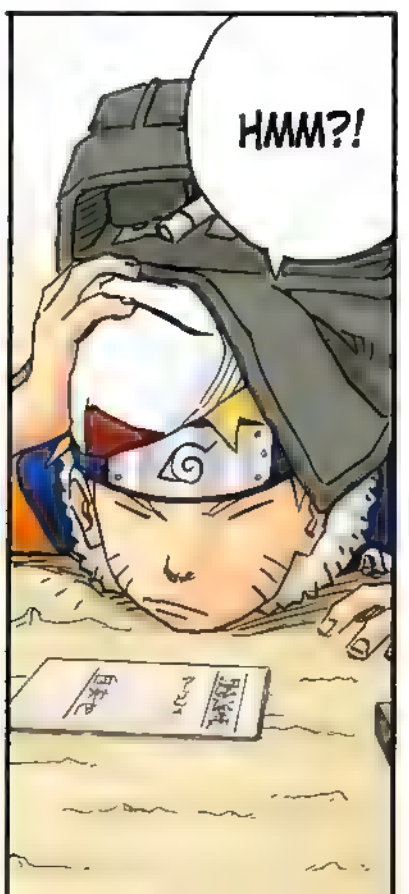
!

そば
たこ焼
おでん


OWW!
YOU KNOW, IF YOU WALK AROUND WITH THAT MASK ON, YOU CAN'T REALLY SEE WHERE YOU'RE GOING!

IT'S PERVY SAGE'S SAVINGS PASSBOOK...


預金通帳
D-1237
自来也


HMM?!

THAT CHEAP-SKATE!!

IF HE HAD THAT MUCH, HE COULD HAVE BOUGHT ME SOMETHING!

IT'S FULL OF ZEROS!

THERE'S ONLY A LITTLE BIT LEFT...I GUESS I'M DONE AFTER THE NEXT SHOP...

.....

GRIN

TRAINING TIME!

IT'LL BE TIME SPENT ON MAKING YOU STRONGER.

SIZZLE
SIZZLE
SIZZLE

HEY, MISTER! CAN I GET TWO OF THESE SKEWERED SQUIDS?!

MAKE ONE A BIG ADULT-SIZED ONE!

SURE! RUNNING ERRANDS EH, LAD!

HERE, YOU CAN HAVE THE KID-SIZED ONE ON THE HOUSE! TAKE IT!!

BUSTLE
BUSTLE

いか焼
やき

ALRIGHT, YOU CAN HAVE THE ADULT-SIZED ONE FOR HALF PRICE TOO!

HA! YOU GOT THAT RIGHT!

WOW, YOU'RE THE MAN, MISTER!

!

SHUP

OH! THAT'S PERVY SAGE'S VOICE!

GYA-HA HA HA HA HA HA!

HUH, HOW FAR DID HE GET?!

HUNH
HUNH

GYA-HA HAHA GOTTA LOVE 'EM!

*HAHAHA

*HAHAHA

.....

HEY... NARUTO! HAVE YOU HAD YOUR FILL OF THE FESTIVAL ALREADY?

!

!

*REEEEEE

.....

I THINK YOU GOT YOURSELF AN INSTANT TRIFECTA!!

*RAGE

TELL ME THOSE THREE PROHIBITIONS AGAIN!!

SLIP

IF YOU'RE GOING TO DO SUCH A THING, YOU BETTER START TRAINING ME ASAP!

SPENDING MY HARD-EARNED MONEY LIKE WATER!

SPLAT

BONK

BONK

NO... NARUTO, STOP! I'M SORRY, OK, H...HEY!!

!

YO!! LOOKIE WHATCHA DONE, BRAT!

WHAT?!! THAT CHEAP-LOOKING COAT COSTS 100,000 RYO?!

100,000 RYO FOR SUCH AN *UGLY* COAT IS A BIT MUCH, DONCHA THINK...

DO YA KNOW HOW MUCH THIS HERE COAT COSTS?! PAY UP!

YOU'VE MUSSED UP MY BRO'S TOP-SHELF COAT!

100,000 RYO!

EH? LEGENDARY... WHAT?

BRO'S A FORMER IWAGAKURE CHUUNIN AND A SUPER-NINJA WHO WAS FEARED AS THE LEGENDARY NINJA OF THE DARK!

WHAT, YOU WANA FIGHT?! EH?!

THAT AIN'T A WISE DECISION, I TELL YA!

*FWOOSH

*GRAHH

!

NAR-UTO...

IT SEEMS YOU'RE ITCHING TO GET HURT!!

!

SO WATCH CLOSELY!

GREAT TIMING... I CAN SHOW YOU THE JUTSU THAT I'M GOING TO BE TEACHING YOU.

*ZZWIRRRRRRLTHUD

!!

ガチ!!

*SHHHK

*BLAST

ZZZU

WA

AA

AH!!

A... AWESOME!

*WHAM

HMM...

.....

SHAF

SQUISH

BOING

...WH... WHO ARE YOU...

YOU KNOW, I HELD BACK QUITE A BIT ON THAT...

YOU ALL ARE WEAK.

TMP TMP

HERE, TAKE THIS FOR REPAIRS. SORRY ABOUT THAT... DIDN'T MEAN TO DESTROY YOUR STAND...

.....

THAT WAS NO ORDINARY PALM PRESS... WHAT THE HECK WAS THAT, THAT JUTSU JUST NOW...?!!

.....

SURE, I GUESS...

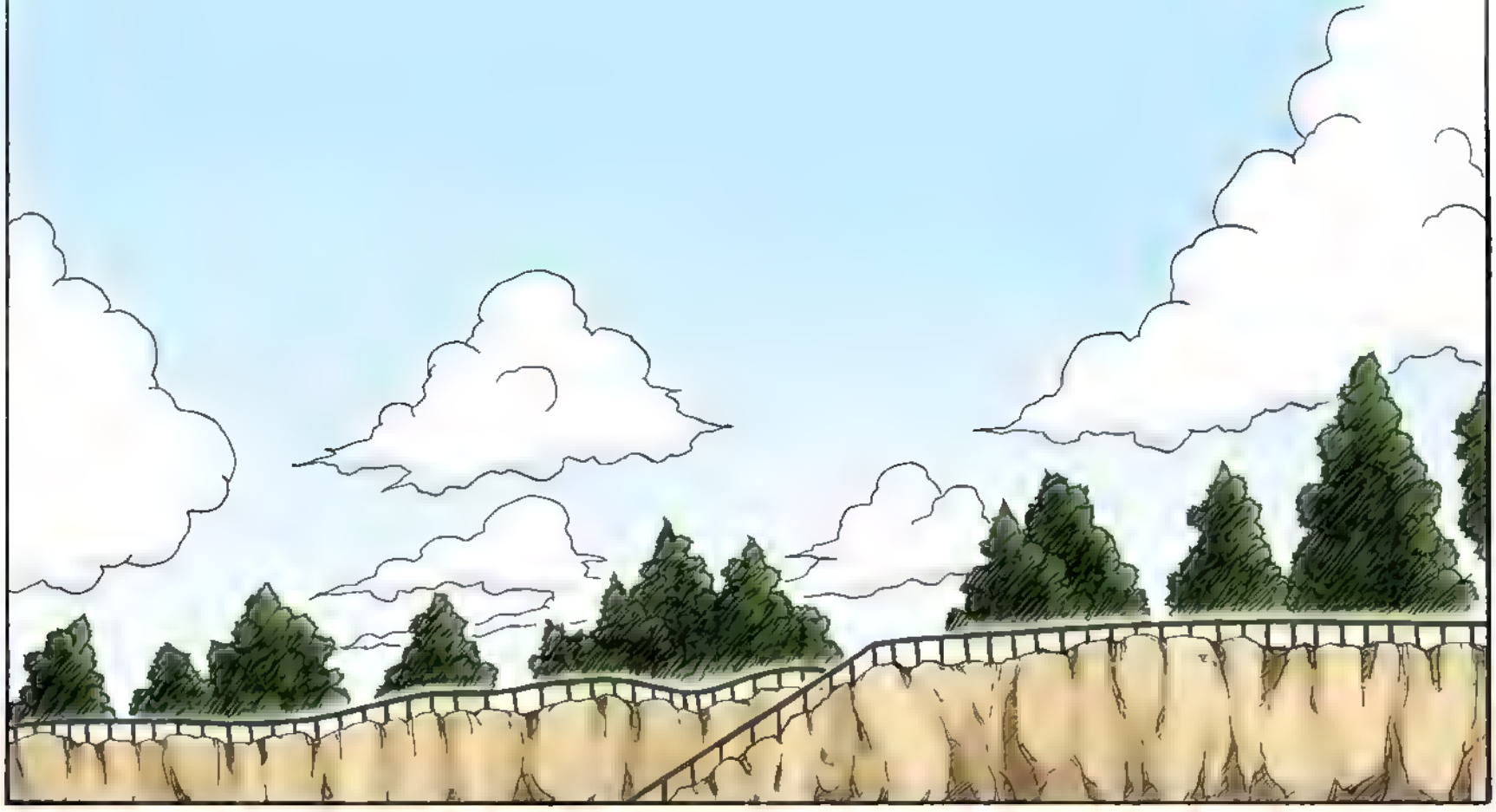
HEY MISTER! CAN I BUY ALL OF YOUR WATER BALLOONS AND REGULAR BALLOONS WHILE I'M AT IT?

YEAH!!

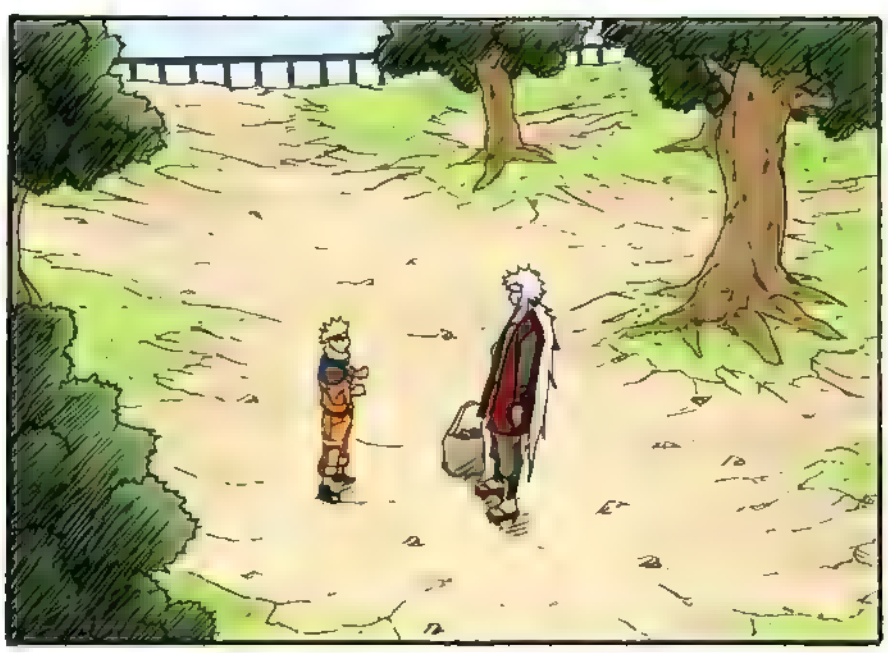
油

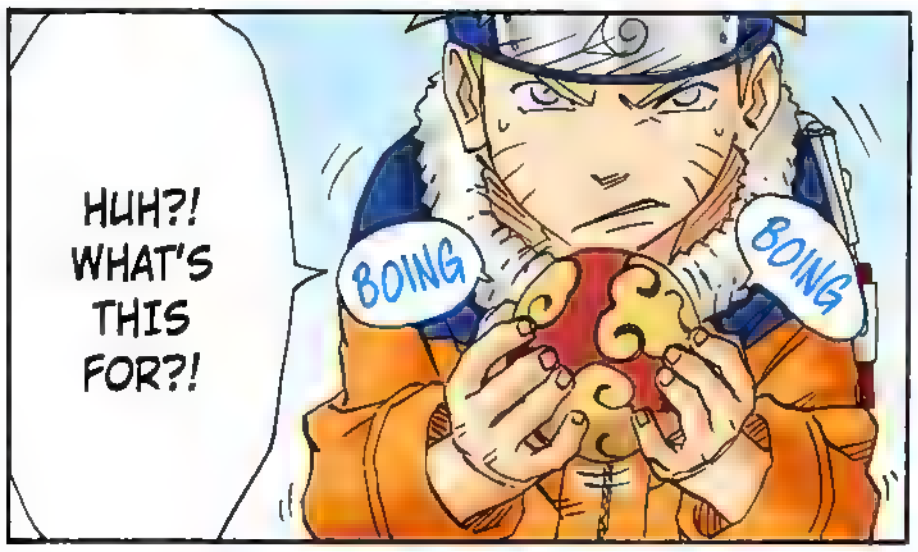
NARUTO! COME ON!

LET'S GO TRAIN!

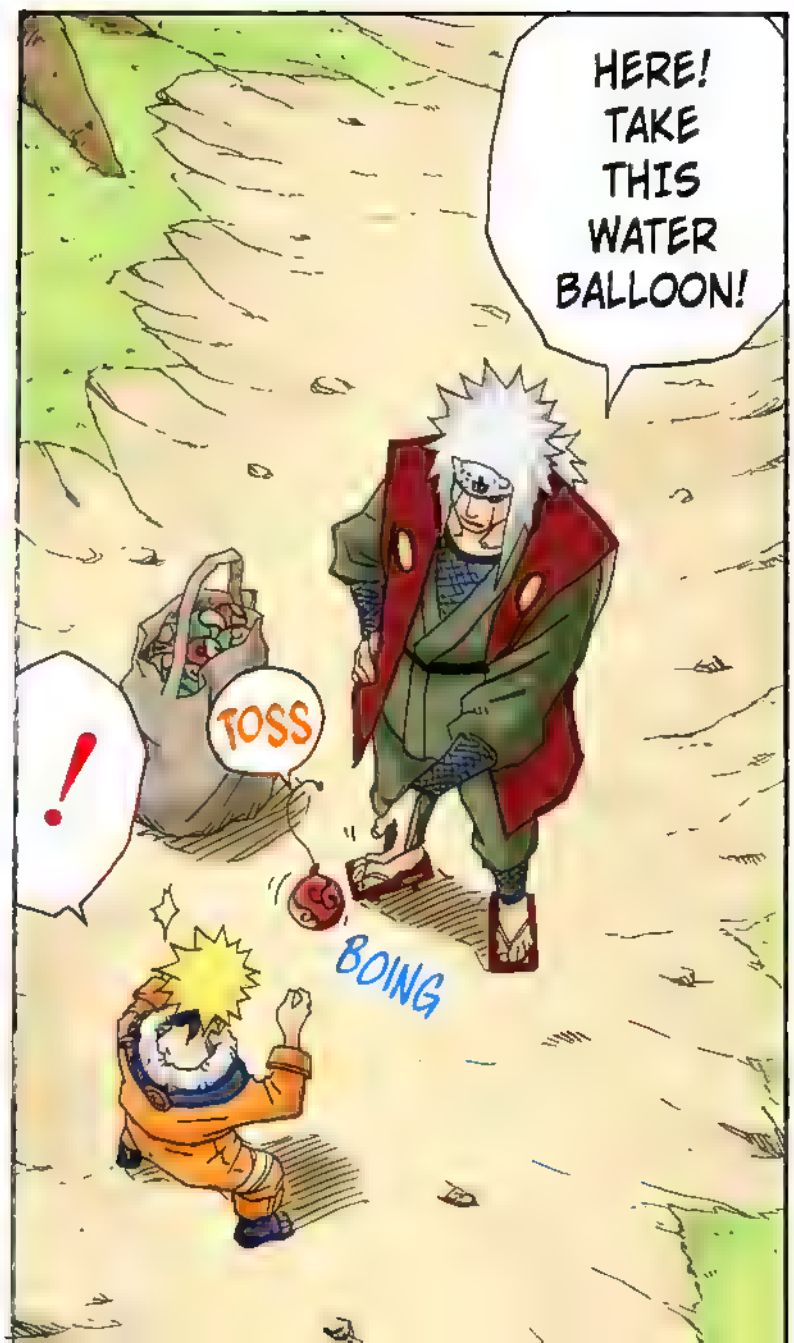


I'M STARTING TO FEEL IT!




HUH?! WHAT'S THIS FOR?!
BOING
BOING

WHAT DID THE JUTSU LOOK LIKE TO YOU?
YUP!
YOU WERE WATCHING JUST NOW, WEREN'T YOU?


HERE! TAKE THIS WATER BALLOON!
!
TOSS
BOING

HIS LINE OF SIGHT'S A BIT OFF, BUT... I GUESS THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH.

.....

GRIN

IT SEEMED LIKE THE ENEMY WAS SPUN AROUND A LOT...

MMM...

THAT'S RIGHT... ROTATION'S PROBABLY THE BEST WORD.

SPLISHSPLASH

*PAK

WITH THE WALK-ON-WATER TECHNIQUE, YOU LEARNED TO CONTINUOUSLY EMIT A TINY AMOUNT OF CHAKRA. YOU'VE ALREADY GOT THOSE TWO UNDER YOUR BELT...

WITH THE TREE-CLIMBING TECHNIQUE, YOU LEARNED TO FOCUS AND MAINTAIN A SET AMOUNT OF CHAKRA EMISSION FROM SPECIFIC AREAS OF YOUR BODY.

*POP

WHOA!

CREATE A STREAM OF CHAKRA!

SO! NOW, WITH THIS WATER BALLOON EXERCISE, YOU'LL LEARN TO CREATE A STREAM OF CHAKRA.

IN OTHER WORDS, ROTATION!

WELL, I'LL EXPLAIN THE JUTSU MORE FULLY AFTER YOU'VE ACCOMPLISHED THE FIRST STEP.

SO I NEED TO ROTATE THE WATER FAST ENOUGH SO THAT THE BALLOON POPS, RIGHT!!

GOT IT!

THE POINT OF THIS EXERCISE IS TO USE THAT CHAKRA TO AGITATE AND SPIN THE WATER INSIDE THE BALLOON!

AND THEN YOU'LL USE THE GIST OF THE WALK ON WATER TECHNIQUE TO CONTINUOUSLY EMIT CHAKRA OUT OF YOUR PALM.

FIRST, YOU'LL USE THE GIST OF THE TREE-CLIMBING, TECHNIQUE TO FOCUS AND MAINTAIN CHAKRA EMISSION FROM YOUR PALM.

YES, SIR!!

ALRIGHT, LET'S GO AT IT UNTIL DARK!

YOUR PERCEPTION'S GETTING SHARPER AND SHARPER!

CHIRP
CHIRP

ナンバー 151：きっかけ…!!

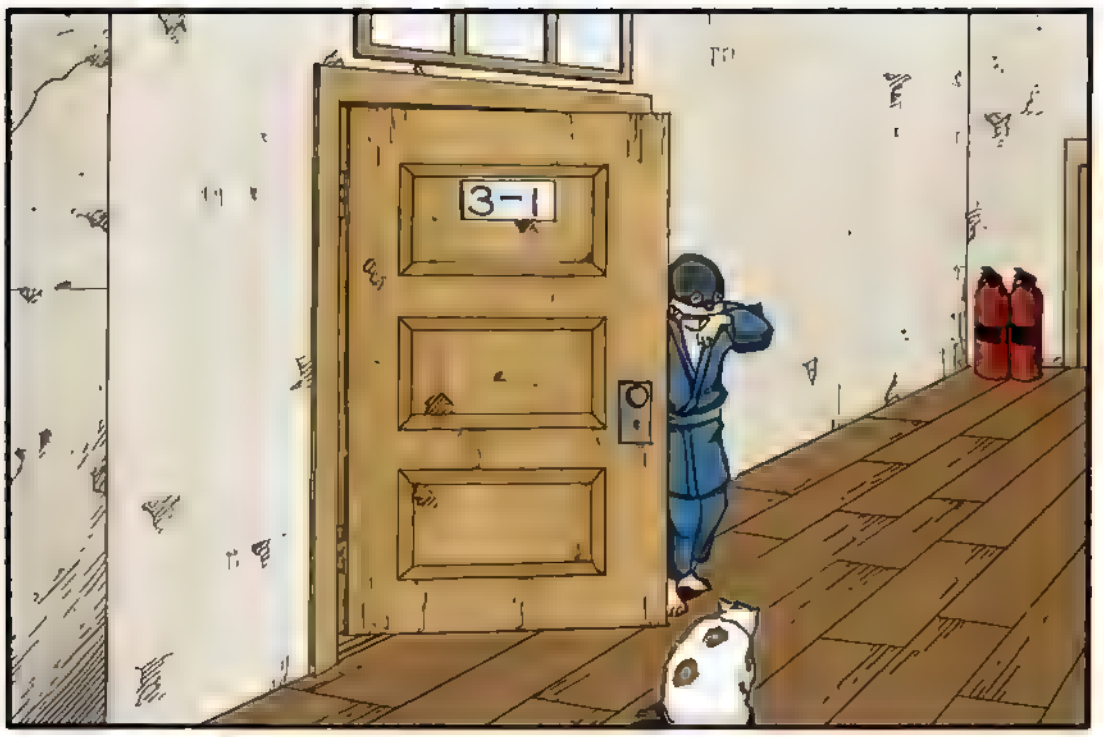
THE HOOK...!!

*SSNORE
カ〜カ〜
UGH...
THUNK

TWITCH TWITCH
MM ...?
*SHF

ナンバー
151：きっかけ…!!
THE HOOK..!!

NARUTO
-ナルト-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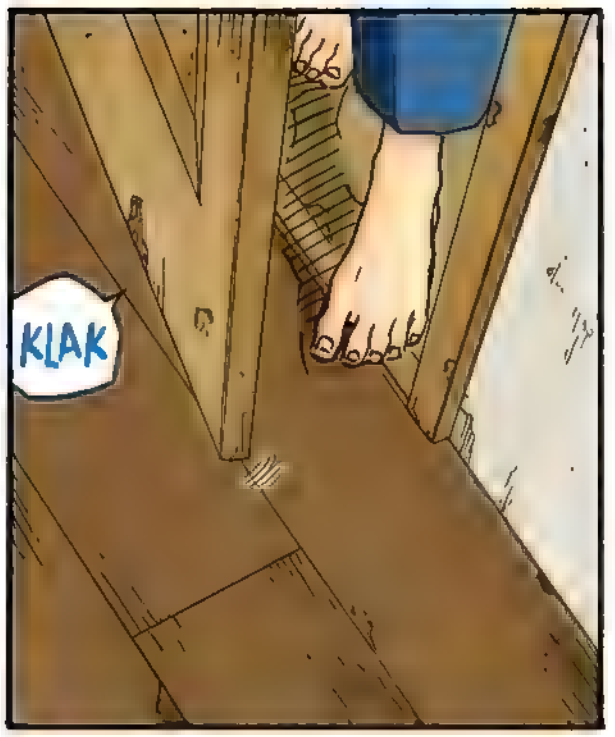
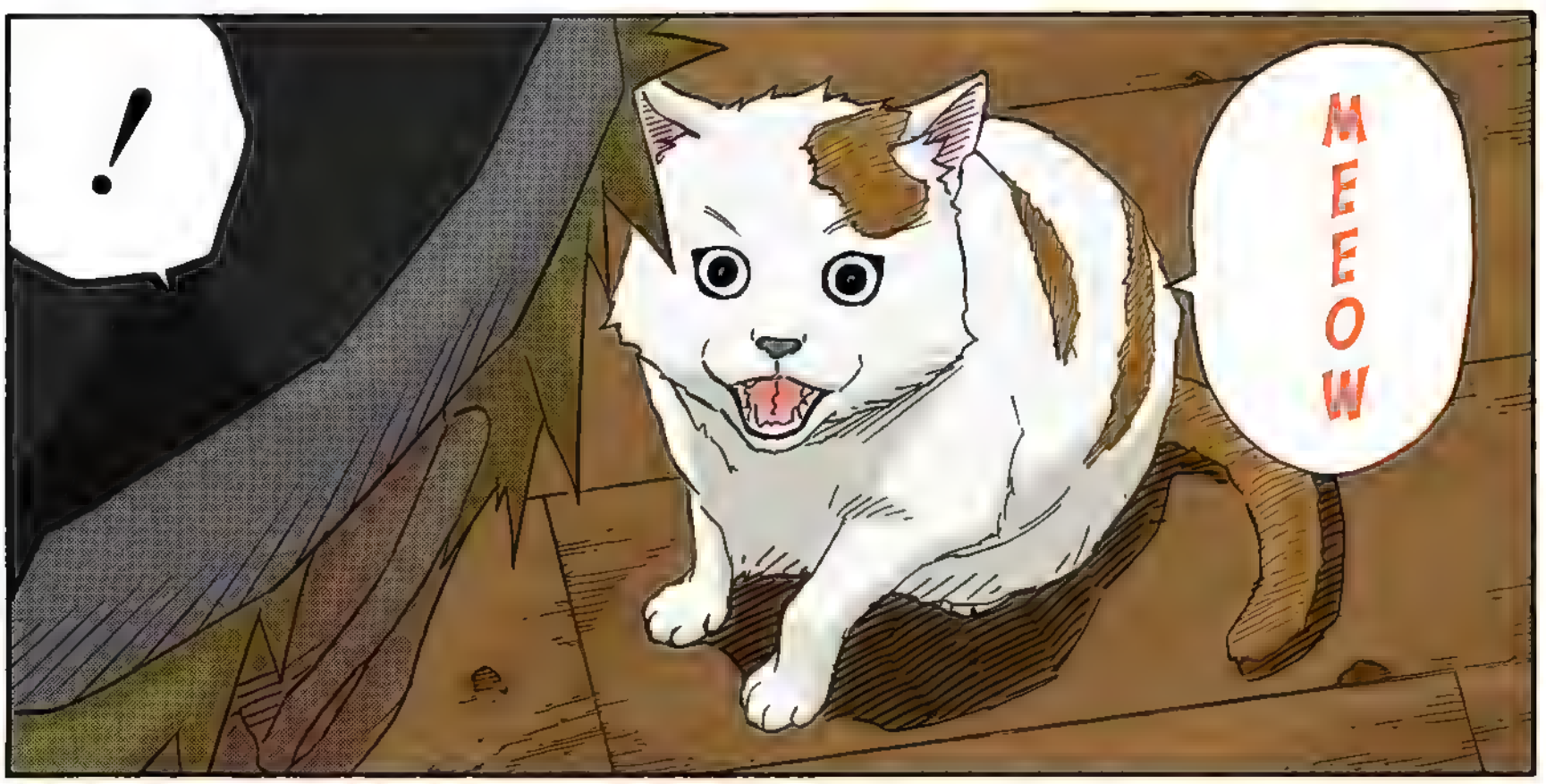
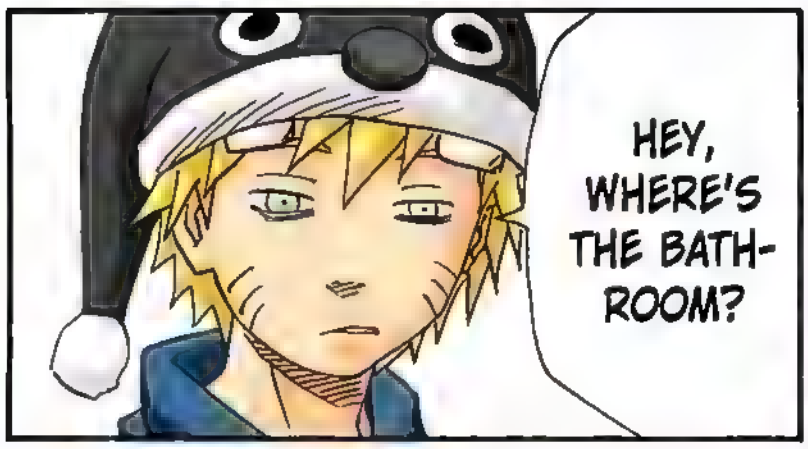
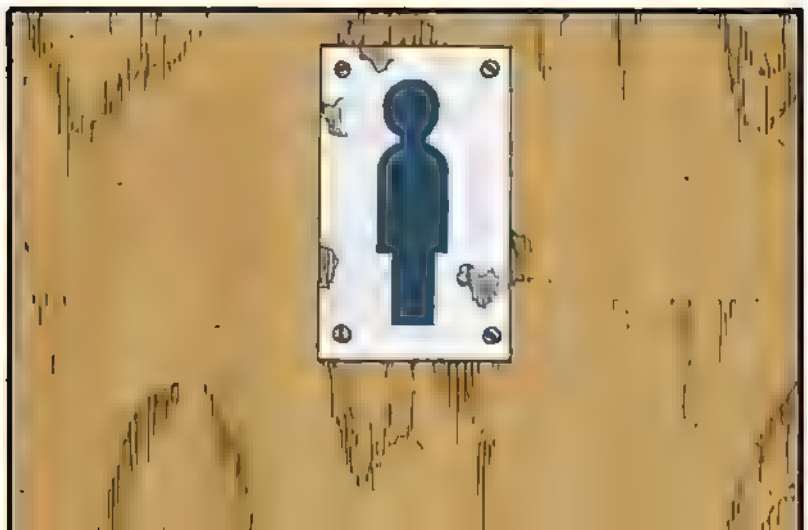
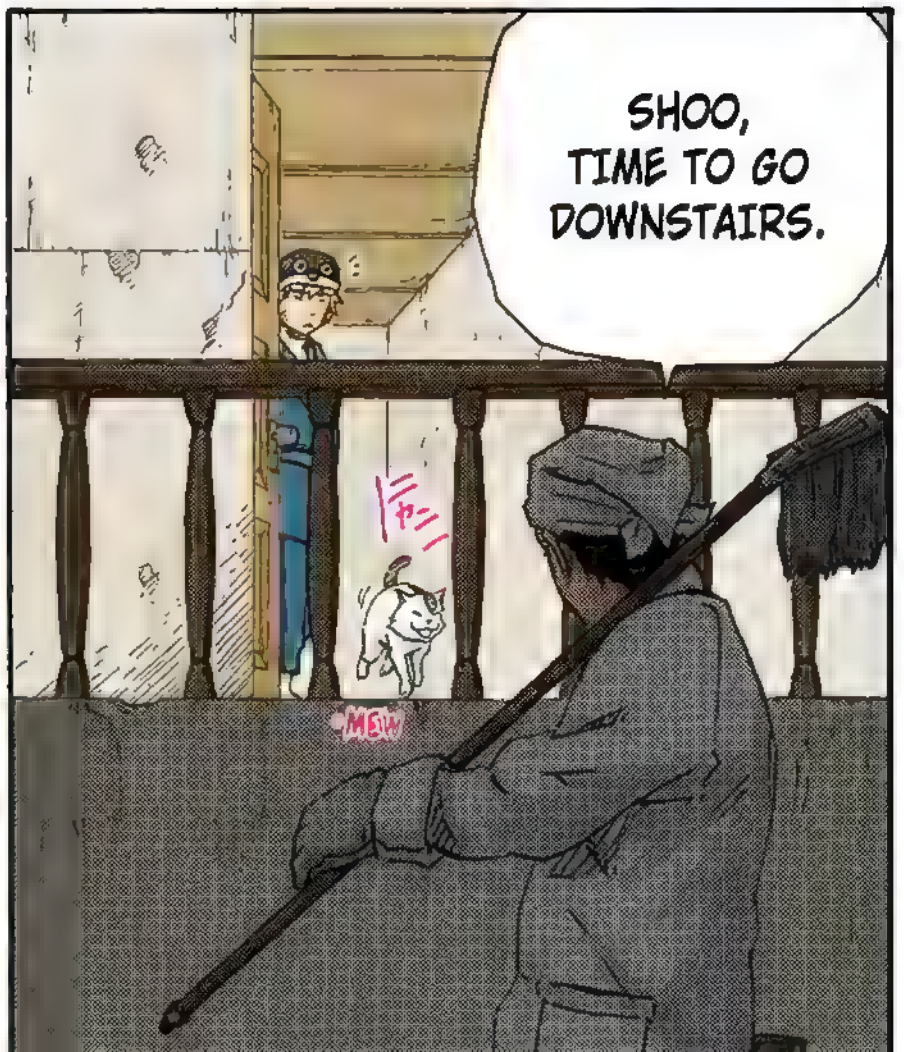

KLAK


!
MEEOW


HEY, WHERE'S THE BATH-ROOM?




SHOO, TIME TO GO DOWNSTAIRS.
ニャー
MEOW

THIS IS BAD, EVEN IF I DON'T HAVE TO WEAVE SIGNS...

TWITCH TWITCH

.....

*SSSHOO

HHPPPP...

*GLUG

*GLUG

*SPUSH

*SPUSH

THE WATER'S SWIRLING AROUND!!

SPLISH

SPLISH

YES!

AT THIS RATE, YOU'RE NOT EVEN GONNA GET A NAP!

*GRIN

*WHOOO

WELL, I'M GOING TO GO CATCH SOME Z'S UNTIL YOU'RE DONE.

I THINK IT'S GONNA BE EASIER TO POP THIS THING THAN I THOUGHT!

NGA-HH NGA-HHH...

CAW

CAW

SPLICH SPLICH

.....

HUNHH ...?

.....!

ARGH! SHEESH! WHY WON'T YOU BURST, EH!

SQUEEEZE

SPLASH

*SSSHOO
*SSSHOO

てて

……

油

DOINK!

HO... DID YOU GET IT...?

THAT WAS A GOOD SNOOZE...

OY! THAT WASN'T JUST A NAP...

……

HOW DO I GET IT TO POP?

..SO HEY...

……

油

I TOLD YOU, I'M NOT GOING TO EXPLAIN FURTHER UNTIL YOU CAN BURST IT!

よっこら しょ!

*OOMPH!

*PF...

JUST THIS ONE TIME, I'LL GIVE YOU A FEW HINTS...

YOU'RE REALLY SUPPOSED TO MASTER JUTSU ...

...ON YOUR OWN, THROUGH TRIAL AND ERROR, BUT...

TY SIGN

AW, ALRIGHT...

*CHOK

!!

O-OK!

NOW MAKE THE WATER SWIRL AROUND!

*ZSPLASH

バチャ

*ZSPLASH

バチャ

UH... COUNTER-CLOCKWISE.

IN WHICH DIRECTION ARE YOU IMAGINING THE WATER SWIRLING AROUND...CLOCKWISE OR COUNTER-CLOCKWISE?

COME COME

OK, COME OVER HERE.

TAP

?

*SHK

WH... WHAT...?

!?

JUST AS I THOUGHT...

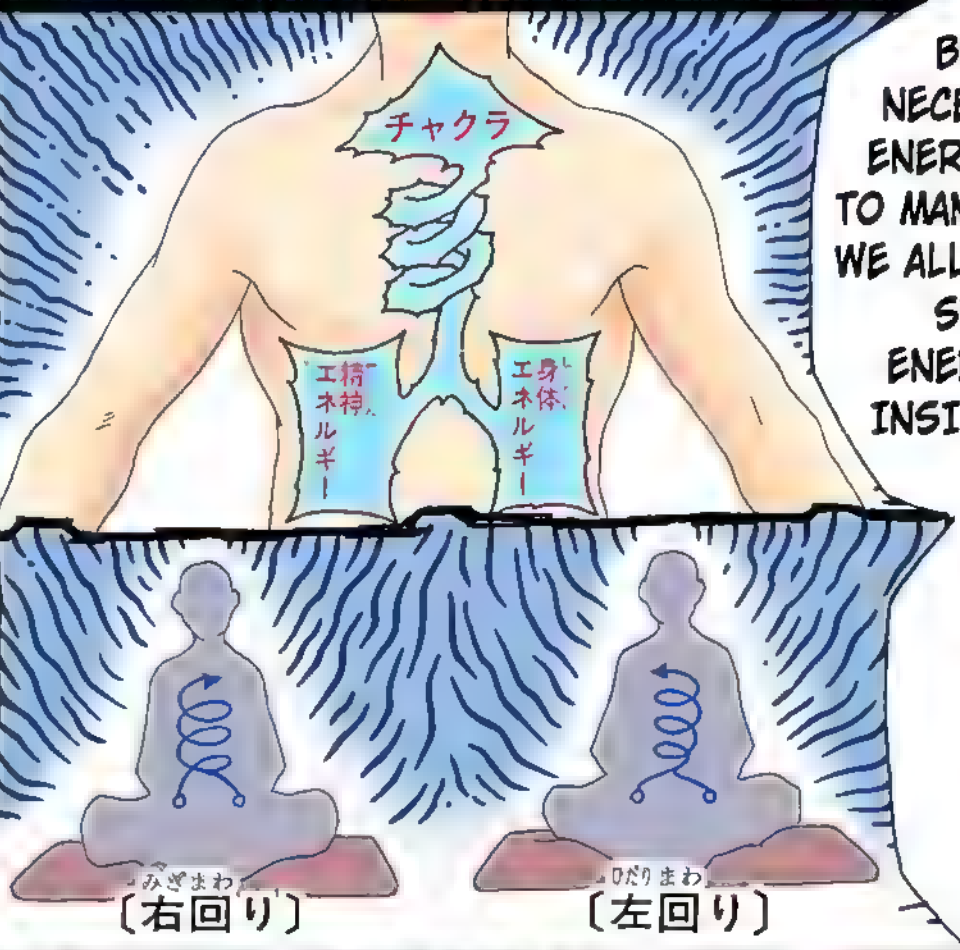
HEH.

!?

YOU'RE A CLOCKWISE TYPE.

IN SHORT, DURING THIS EXERCISE, IF YOU VISUALIZE THE WATER INSIDE THE BALLOON SWIRLING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DIRECTIONAL TYPE..

...YOUR CHAKRA FLOW GETS IMPEDED, EVEN REPULSED, AND YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO BUILD GOOD ROTATION.



(*CLOCKWISE)

(*COUNTERCLOCKWISE)

BECAUSE IT'S NECESSARY TO MIX ENERGIES IN ORDER TO MANIPULATE CHAKRA, WE ALL UNCONSCIOUSLY SWIRL THOSE ENERGIES AROUND INSIDE OURSELVES.

SOME PEOPLE HAPPEN TO ROTATE THEM CLOCKWISE AND SOME COUNTER-CLOCKWISE.

IF IT GOES TO THE RIGHT, YOU'RE A CLOCKWISE TYPE, AND IF IT GOES TO THE LEFT, YOU'RE A COUNTER-CLOCKWISE TYPE. (IT'S EASY!)

THE WAY YOUR HAIR GROWS TELLS ME RIGHT AWAY.

THE PATTERN OF YOUR HAIR!

YOU KNOW, YOU OUGHT TO SENSE THESE KINDA THINGS ON YOUR OWN...

SO HOW'D YOU TELL I WAS A CLOCKWISE TYPE SO EASILY?

I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THESE THINGS BEFORE...

YUP, THAT'S WHY YOU NEED TO IMAGINE THAT WATER SWIRLING CLOCKWISE.

SO I'M A CLOCKWISE TYPE, HUH!

HUH!

YOU DON'T NEED TO WEAVE ANY SIGNS. ALL YOU NEED IS CHAKRA.

BUT YOU KNOW, THIS JUTSU IS IDEAL FOR YOU.

.....

I'LL MASTER IT IN THREE DAYS!!

ALRIGHT! NOW THAT I KNOW, THIS JUTSU WILL BE A PIECE OF CAKE...

NO COMPLICATED SEQUENCES TO MEMORIZE! (EVEN A DUNCE CAN DO IT!)

*JAB

THIS JUTSU IS ONE OF THE LEGACIES OF THE FOURTH HOKAGE!

IT TOOK LORD FOURTH A FULL ***THREE YEARS*** TO PERFECT THIS JUTSU...

.....

AN A-RANK SUPER-ADVANCED NINJUTSU.

A LEVEL FIVE OUT OF SIX. SECOND FROM THE TOP!

.....

THIS "WATER BALLOON-BURSTING" IS THE FIRST STAGE.

YOU NEED TO WORK THROUGH THREE STAGES OF EXERCISES.

IN ORDER TO MASTER THIS NINJUTSU ...

.....

LATER! I'M GOING BACK TO OUR ROOM.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

SHF

...ANYWAY, IT'S USELESS TO EXPLAIN THE JUTSU ANY FURTHER TO SOMEONE WHO HASN'T EVEN CLEARED THE FIRST STATE, SO.

YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN FOR THE NEXT WHILE.

.....

.....

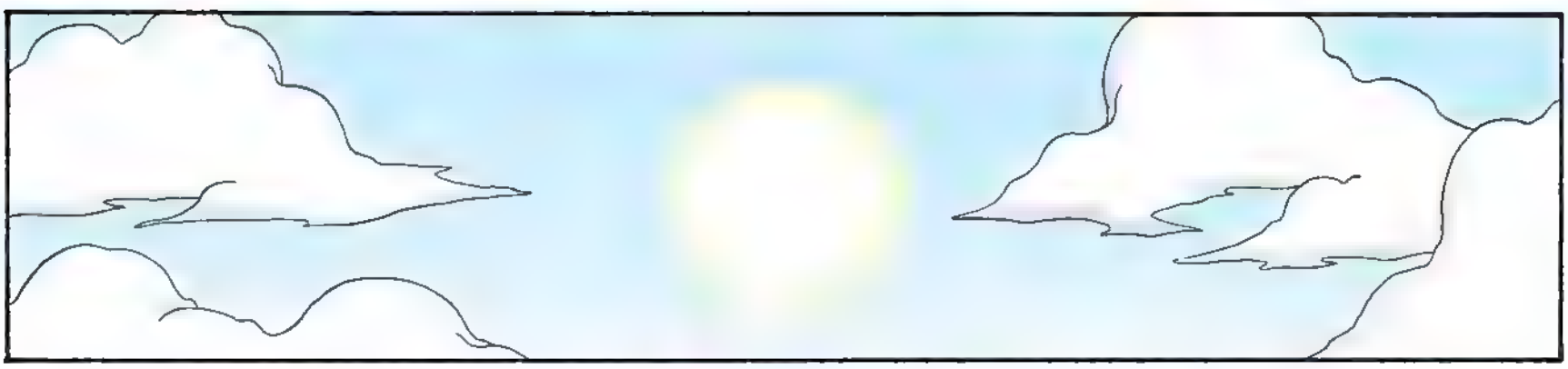
.....

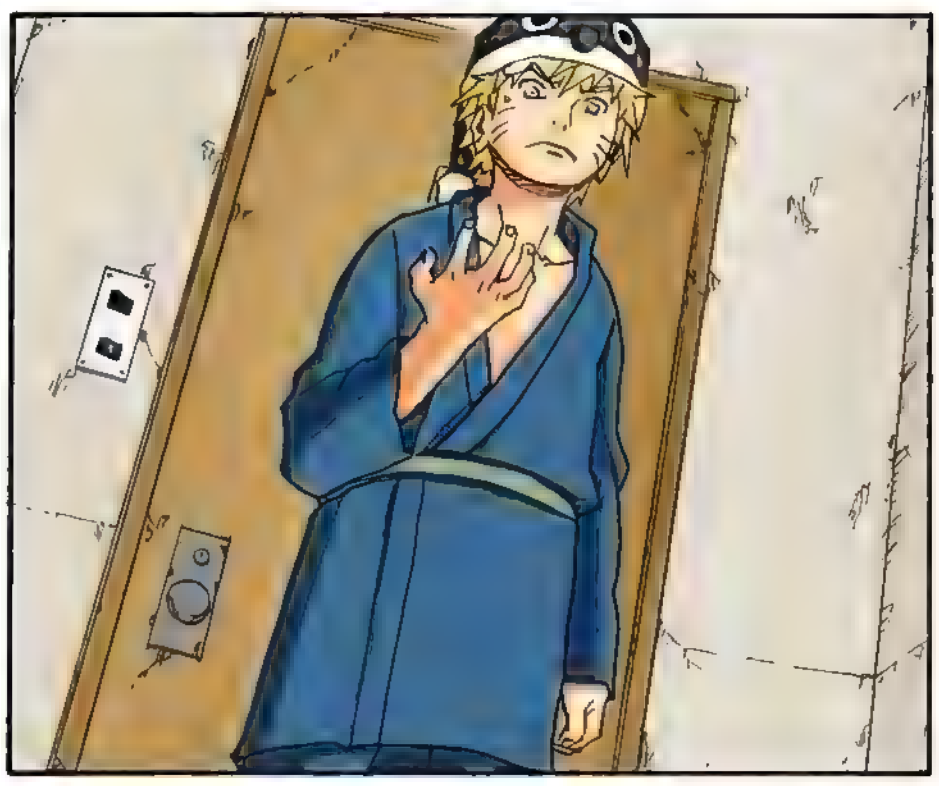
NAH, I'M GONNA STAY HERE A LITTLE LONGER!

DON'T OVERDO IT!

WELL THEN...

GRIN





*ZWIRL *ZWIRL

HUF HUF HUF

I MUST STILL BE DOING SOMETHING DIFFERENT FROM PERVY SAGE...

WHY...?!

HUF HUF HUF HUF

AND I CAN NOW STRETCH THE RUBBER THIS MUCH, SO WHY WON'T IT BURST?!

IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS ALREADY SINCE PERVY SAGE GAVE ME THAT HINT...

GAH!

*SHOO

THAT'S NOT A TOY...

HEY!

PURRR

PURRR PURRR

!

*THWAP

*WHEEE

*POP!

*THACK

MEW!!

THWAP

THWAP

BOING BOING

...THAT'S IT..!

HEY! PERVY SAGE!

WAKE UP ALREADY!

*WHOOSH

HEH HEH HEH.

MM HH...?!

*POP!

*SNEER

WHA?!

*SPLATTER

FIRST STAGE CLEARED!

ナンバー

152：

第二段階（だいにだんかい）

THE SECOND STATE

WHY DON'T YOU SHOW ME...

WELL THEN...

HERE WE GO! WATCH CLOSELY!!

.....

HIS LEFT HAND...?

HAA!!

ボコ
ボコボコ
ガガガガガ
ガ!!
ガ!!
10
SEE! I DID IT!
YEAH!!

HEYY! YOU FELL ASLEEP!

ZZZ SSS...

カク

...YEAH, RIGHT, I BET YOU ARE!!

I'VE BEEN OUT SO LATE COLLECTING INTELLIGENCE, I'M BEAT.

AWW, SORRY, MY BAD...

イェン

イェン

.....

TO MAKE THE WATER SWIRL AROUND BY HOLDING THE WATER BALLOON IN HIS LEFT HAND AND BRINGING HIS RIGHT HAND TO IT... IT'S A BIT UNORTHODOX, BUT... HE'S SUCH A FUNNY FELLOW.

...HOWEVER...

HIS NAME IS SHOO!

MEW

IT'S ALL THANKS TO HIM!

WELL... I DO HAVE TO SAY, I'M QUITE IMPRESSED YOU WERE ABLE TO GRASP THE TECHNIQUE IN SUCH A SHORT TIME...

THAT'S WHEN I NOTICED.

I SAW HIM BAT AROUND THE WATER BALLOON WITH HIS FRONT PAWS.

ボヨン ボヨン

?

WHAT CAME TO YOU?

AND THEN IT CAME TO ME!

ゴロン ゴロン

BECAUSE HE KEPT BATTING AT IT OVER AND OVER...

THE WATER INSIDE WAS SWIRLING AROUND IN ALL DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS...

UNTIL NOW, I HAD BEEN FOCUSING ON SWIRLING THE WATER IN ONLY ONE DIRECTION...

THE FIRST TIME YOU SHOWED ME THIS EXERCISE.

I REMEMBERED THAT THE WATER BALLOON GOT ALL LUMPY...

...BECAUSE YOU WERE SWIRLING THE WATER AROUND IN MANY DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.

I REALIZED THAT...

...YOUR WATER BALLOON WAS ALL LUMPY...

...IT BURST!

SO, I KINDA IMPROVISED, AND WHEN I TRIED IT OUT...

.....

HEH HEH HEH HEH

IT SEEMS IT'S STILL BEYOND HIM TO AGITATE HIS CHAKRA WITH ONE HAND, BUT...

HE DID DO PRETTY WELL, CONSIDERING... I GUESS.

.....

YESSSSS!!

ALRIGHT, YOU'VE CLEARED THE FIRST STATE.

ニヤン

スタッ

THE TOLL ON HIS KEIRAKUKEI* IS STARTING TO SHOW.

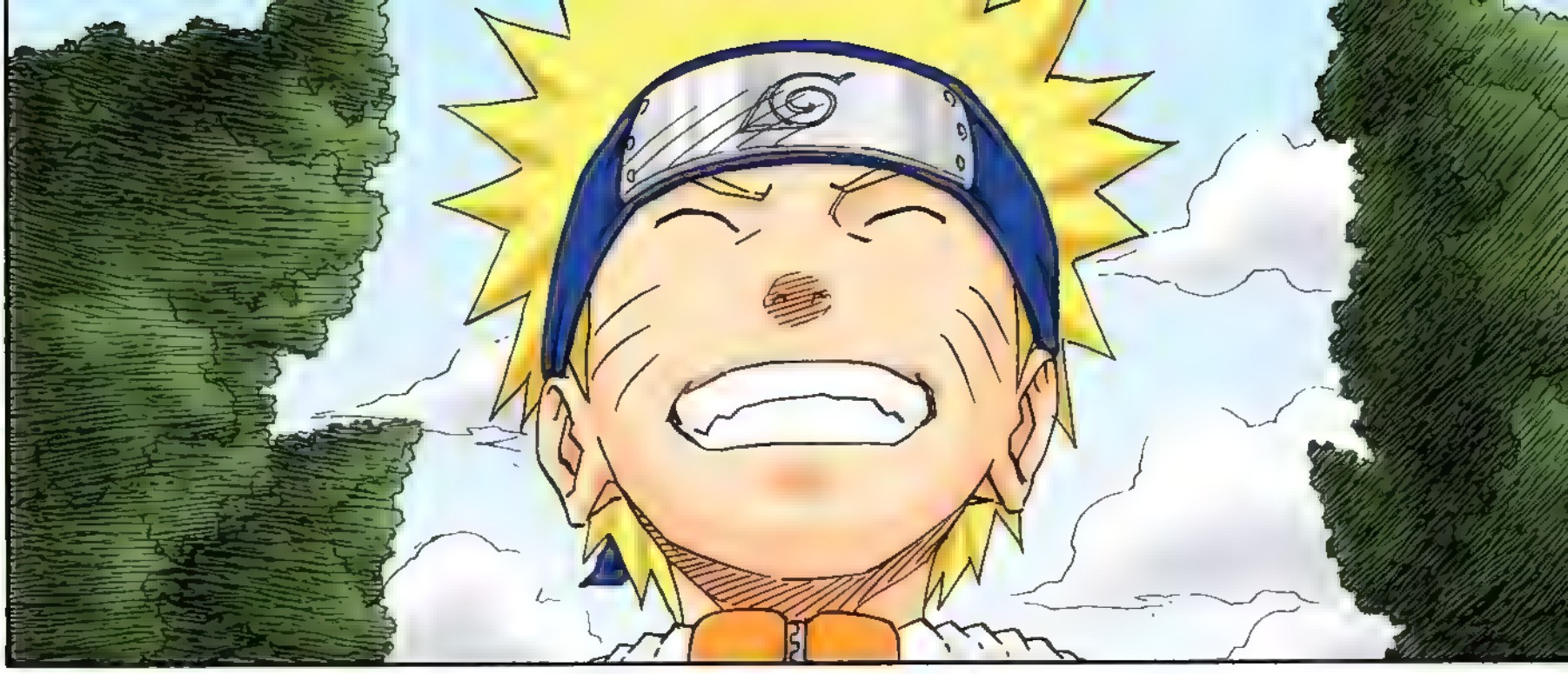
.....

(*CHAKRA NETWORK.)

...AND THE SECOND STATE DEFINITELY WON'T BE AS EASY.

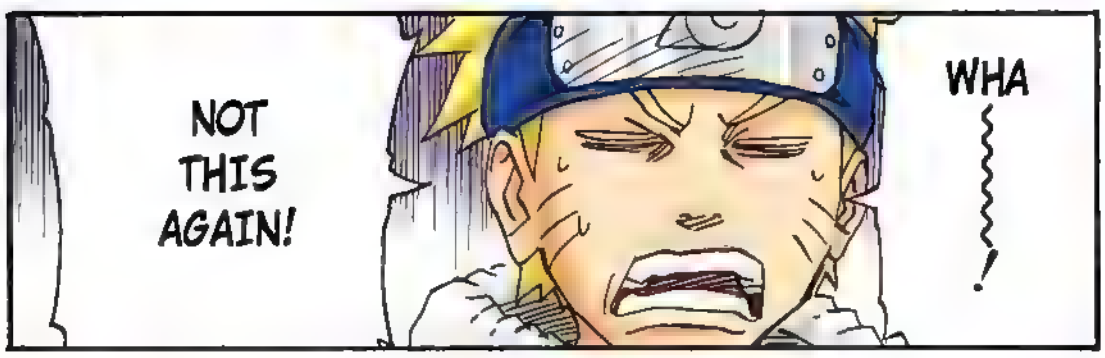
ビクン

OWW!!



HERE.
ポイ
!?

OK! SO LET'S START WORKING THE SECOND STATE.
YAY!
FINALLY, I'M GOING TO GET SOME-WHERE!


NOT THIS AGAIN!
WHA!

グッ
THIS TIME, YOU'RE GOING TO TRY BURSTING ONE OF THESE!

.....!
...A RUBBER BALL...?
パシ
グニィ

WHOA!

……

……

IT'S A HUNDRED TIMES STIFFER THAN A WATER BALLOON.

油

ズッ

ゲ〃〃ニャ〃…

スッ

WHOA, IT IS STIFF..!!

UNH...

...I WONDER IF THERE'S A KNACK TO THIS TOO...

.....

...IT'S HARDER TO VISUALIZE AND THUS SWIRL YOUR CHAKRA AROUND.

BECAUSE THERE'S NO WATER INSIDE...

THE FIRST STATE IS ABOUT ROTATION, THE SECOND ABOUT POWER.

!

SO GOOD LUCK...

IF YOU CAN'T MASTER IT ON YOUR OWN, THAT'S IT.

STOP BEING SO JUVENILE... AND START ACTING LIKE A PROPER SHINOBI!

DON'T BE SUCH A BABY! I THINK YOU'VE MISUNDERSTOOD SOMETHING.

I DID PROMISE TO TEACH YOU JUTSU, BUT I NEVER SAID I WOULD HOLD YOUR HAND AND WALK YOU THROUGH IT.

SO WHAT ABOUT... GIVING ME SOME SORT OF HINT AGAIN, AT LEAST, EH..

ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT.

OH! HEY! WAIT!

WELL THEN, I'M OFF TO COLLECT MORE INFO...

LET'S TRAIN TOGETHER TODAY!

YOU'RE NOT PROPER, EITHER!!

AND YOU'RE A DIRTY GROWN-UP!!

PAY UP.

スッ

.....

SIGH. UNH-UH, IT'S NOT EVEN CLOSE TO BURSTING!

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IT'S A WHOLE LOT HARDER THAN THE WATER BALLOON...

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AND... BOTH OF MY HANDS AND ARMS HURT THIS TIME...

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ズキン

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プルプル

ハア

DON'T BE SUCH A BABY! I THINK YOU'VE MISUNDERSTOOD SOMETHING.

THAT'S WHY THIS JUTSU IS CONSIDERED A LEVEL FIVE OUT OF SIX. SECOND FROM THE TOP!

HOW MANY DAYS HAVE I BEEN AT IT ALREADY!!

DARN IT!

HEY, NARUTO!

WHO, ME!?!

GO DOWN INTO THE CITY

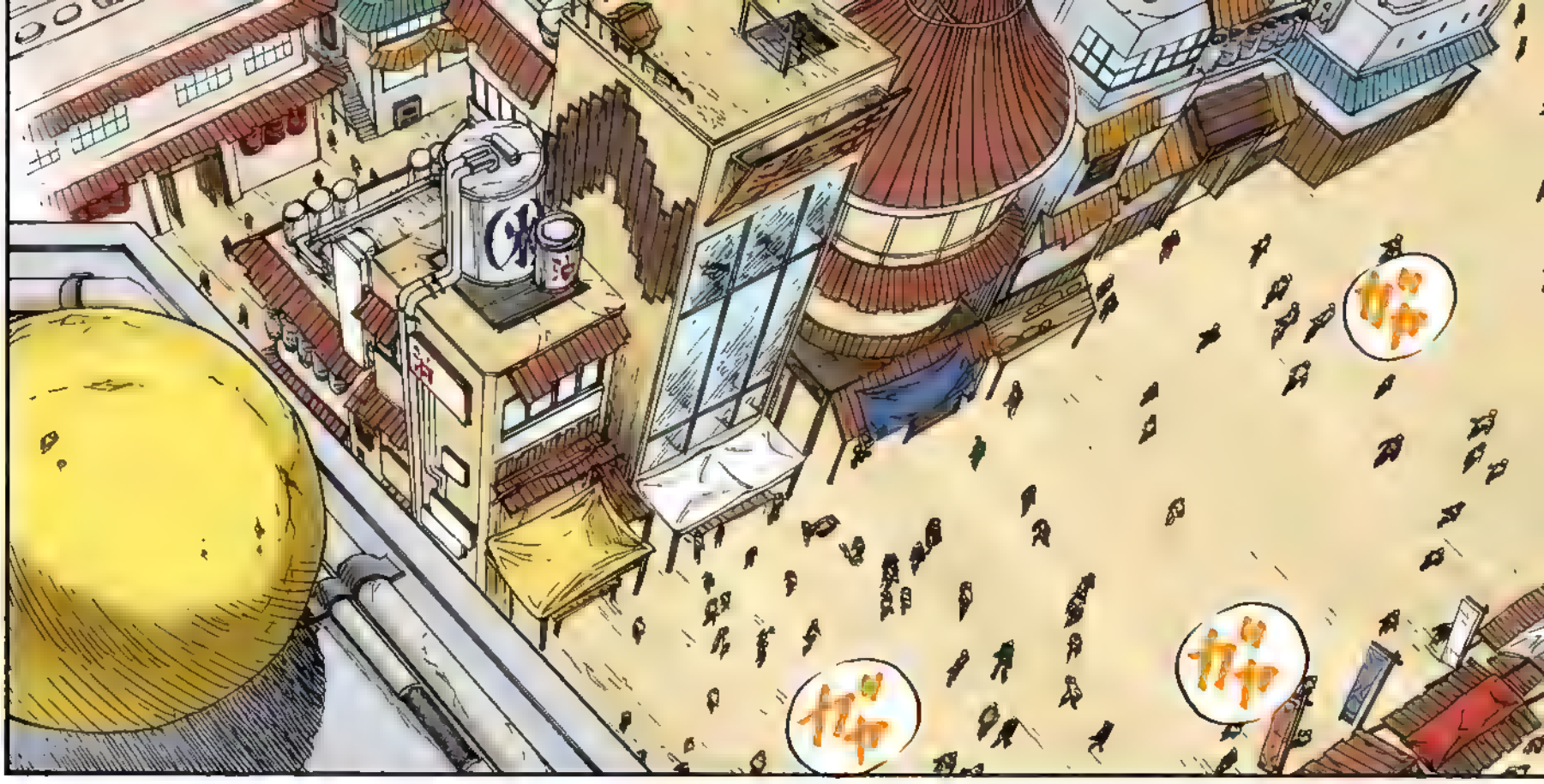
AND BUY US BOTH LUNCHIES, WILL YA.

..WHAT IS IT...?

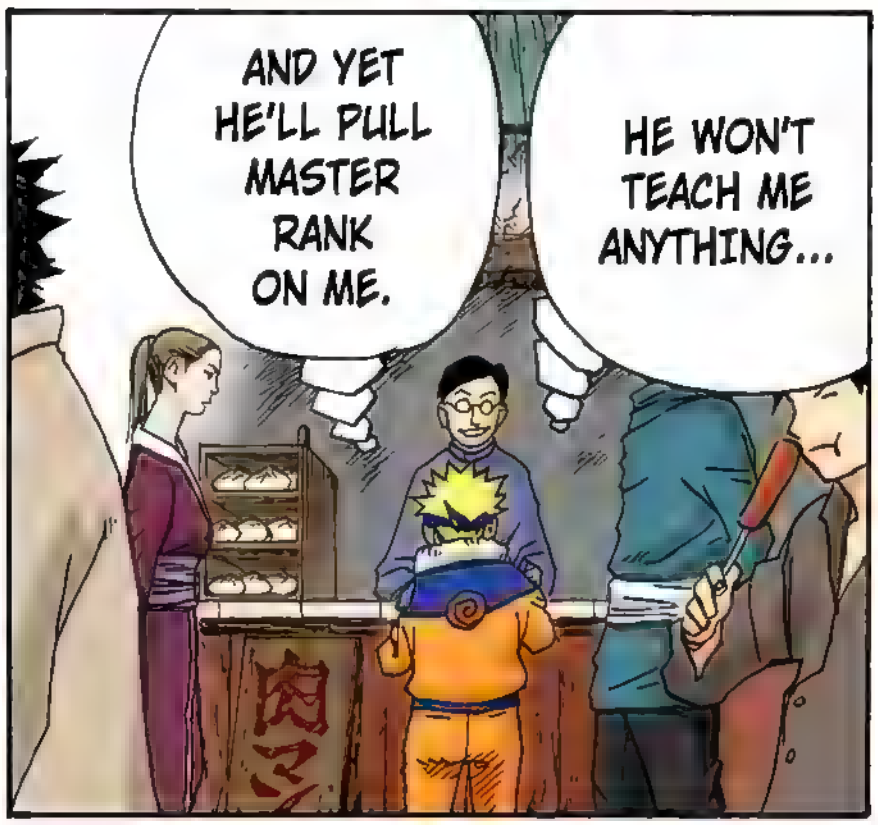
.....

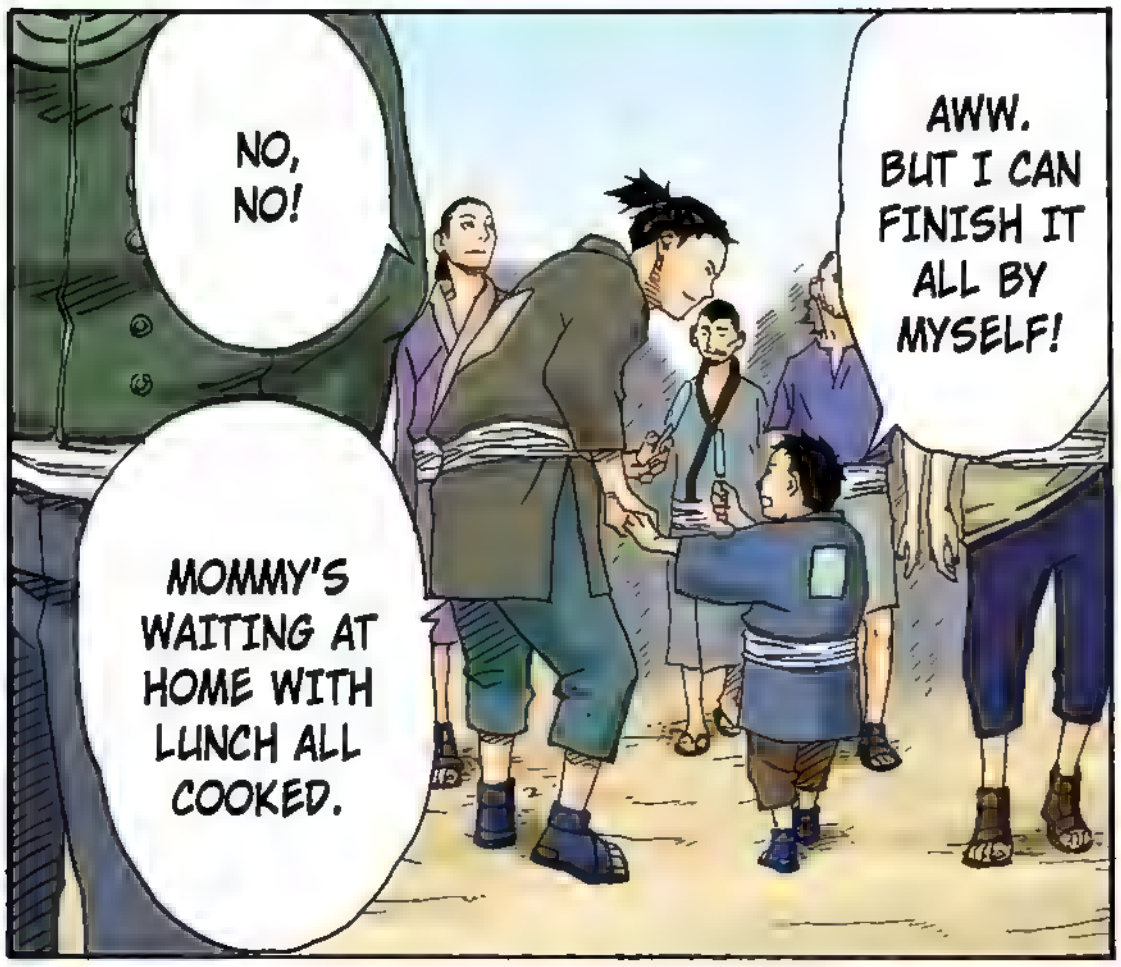
14スッ!

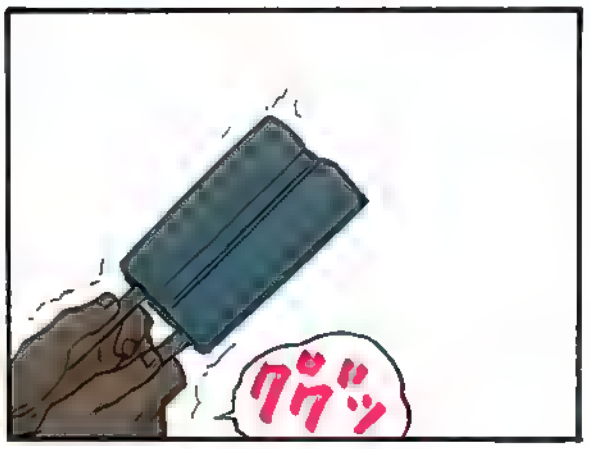
YOU KNOW... YOU ARE MY DISCIPLE, AFTER ALL. ♡



ALRIGHT. LET'S GET THIS ONE. THEN... ONE THAT WE CAN SPLIT.
HEY, DADDY! CAN YOU BUY ME A POPSICLE?
!


AND YET HE'LL PULL MASTER RANK ON ME.
HE WON'T TEACH ME ANYTHING...


NO, NO!
AWW. BUT I CAN FINISH IT ALL BY MYSELF!
MOMMY'S WAITING AT HOME WITH LUNCH ALL COOKED.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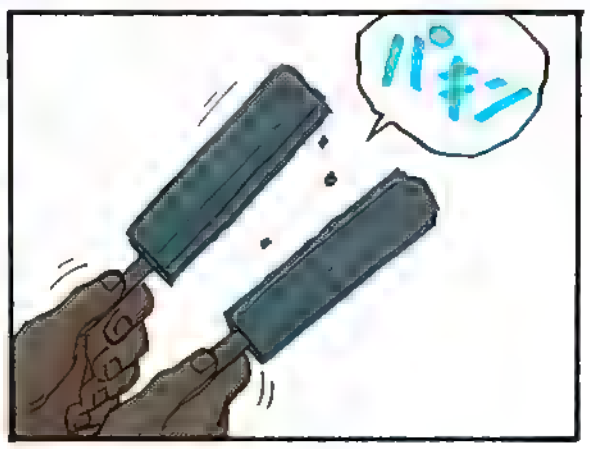

パキン

.....

ガヤ ガヤ

たいやき
巨乗さ

I DON'T HAVE THE TIME...I'M NOT EVEN GOING TO SIT AND EAT HERE.

I'M GOING TO SCARF IT DOWN ON MY WAY INTO THE CITY.

...IF JUST FOR A BIT...

YOU COULD WATCH ME TRAIN... TODAY...?

...HEY... I WAS WONDERING...

.....

.....

IF YOU CAN'T THINK IT THROUGH AND FIGURE OUT THE KNACKS ON YOUR OWN...

...YOU'LL NEVER GET BETTER.

OF COURSE! YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME THAT!

HEH HEH!

.....

YOU'RE A NINJA!

I ALREADY TOLD YOU THREE WEEKS AGO, STOP BEING SUCH A BABY... DIDN'T I?

THE MORE I INCREASE THE VOLUME OF MY CHAKRA FLOW, THE WORSE THE PAIN...

AND EVERY TIME I LET MY CHAKRA FLOW, IT'S LIKE MY NERVES ARE GETTING STABBED,

ズキン

ズキン ズキン

ハァ ハァ ハァ ゼェ

ALL I'M DOING IS JUST DRAINING MY CHAKRA.

DARN IT... NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY, I CAN'T BURST IT..

THAT'S IT!!

.....

!

I GET THIS FEELING THAT... UNLESS I MAKE MY CHAKRA EXPLODE...

BUT... SOME-HOW...

LIKE IN A SINGLE BLAST, IT WON'T BURST...

I CAN TELL FROM THE AMOUNT OF PAIN HOW MUCH CHAKRA IS FLOWING THROUGH. HOLD ON, IF I CAN HOLD ON AND JUST KEEP THE CHAKRA COMING...

UNNG

NOW!!

UGGH!

NOT YET... NO, NOT YET. J-JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE...

ARGH!

OWW!!

ボコボコ

ドサッ

.....

HUMPH! I'VE ONLY MANAGED TO MAKE A HOLE IN IT.

I HAVEN'T GOTTEN IT TO BURST YET!!

!

HO... IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE MADE SOME PROGRESS...

スッ

CONGRAT-ULATIONS FOR GETTING THIS FAR ON YOUR OWN!

!

HERE!

AWW, COME ON. DON'T BE SO HUFFY.

GIVE ME YOUR RIGHT HAND.

HUH?! WHAT?! WHAT IS IT?!

NOW THAT YOU'VE MADE IT TO THIS POINT, THE REST IS JUST KNACK ... SHALL WE TRY SOMETHING OUT...?

HEH HEH...

.....

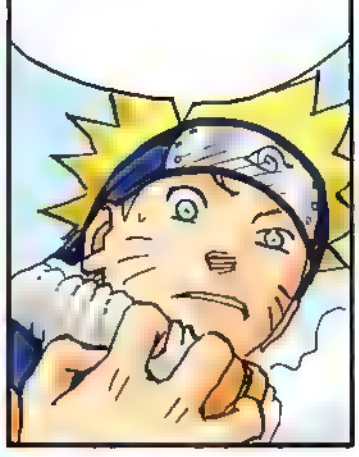
WHAT IS IT?

チョン

HMM?

ナンバー
153 : THE SEARCHERS!!

ヴィ


...WHAT
IS THIS?

?
THERE
YOU GO...

ドゴ

!?
LOOK.

ゴゴゴ

?

I'M ABOUT TO TELL YOU.

BUT WHAT'S IT FOR...?!

YOU GOT ONE TOO..

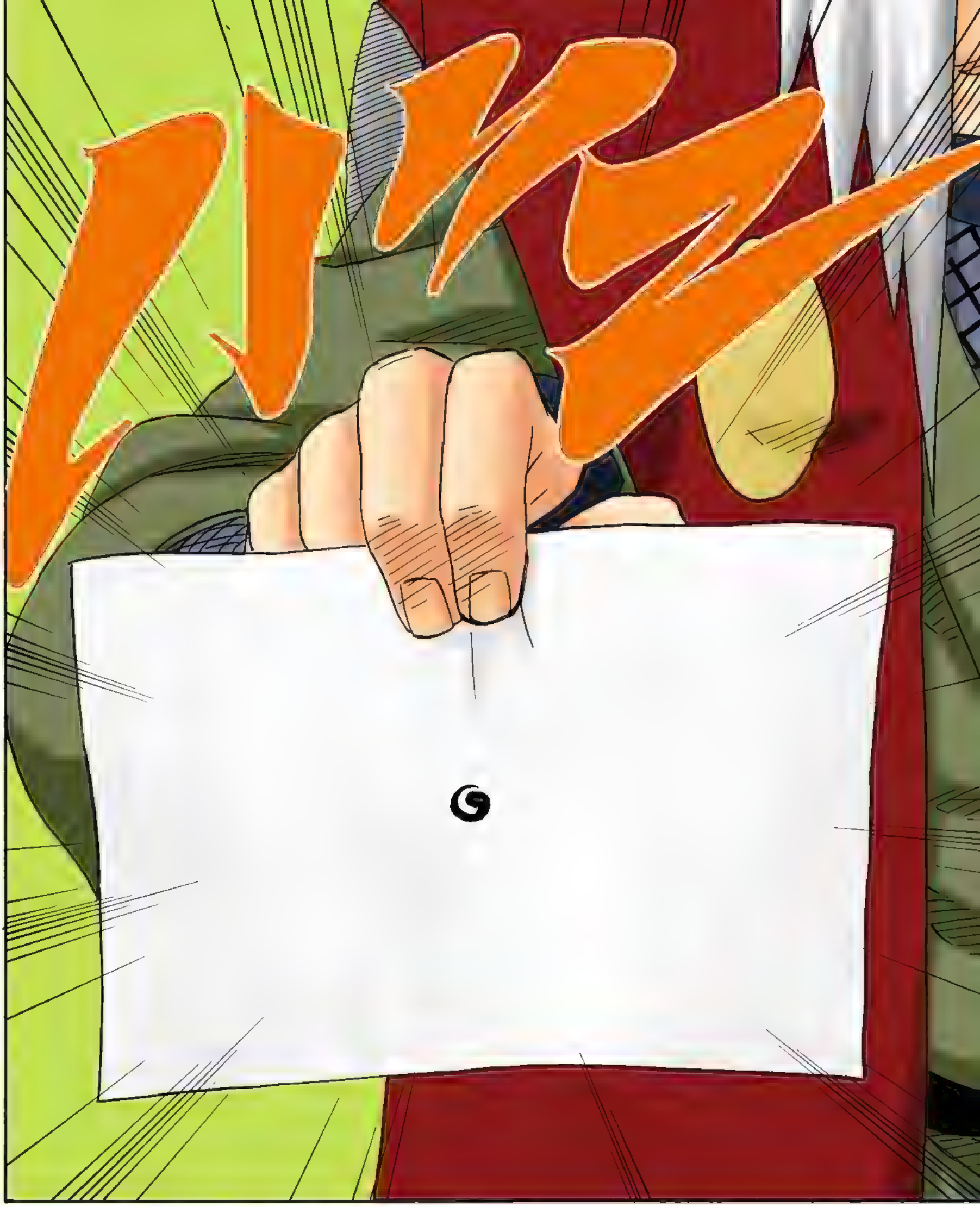
ALRIGHT, NARUTO, LOOK AT THIS PIECE OF PAPER.

NOW LOOK AT IT AGAIN!

GOOD!

I LOOKED!

.....


UH, SO WHAT?
.....

I GUESS.

MMM...

PROBABLY AT THE DOT, RIGHT?

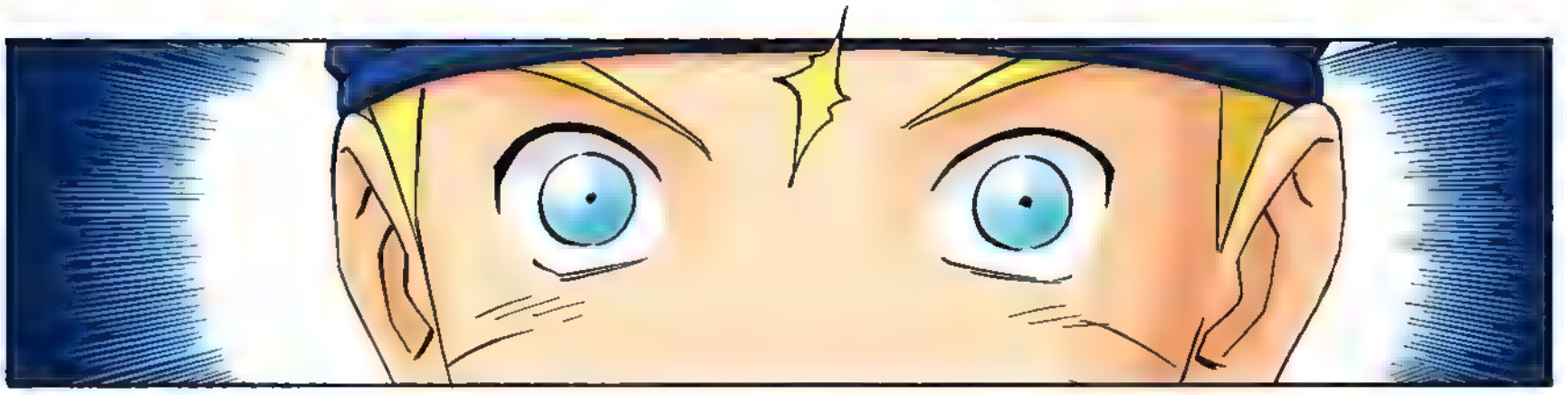
WELL THEN, WHERE WERE YOU LOOKING ON THE SHEET WITH THE DOT?

THE FIRST TIME, WHEN YOU WERE LOOKING AT THE BLANK SHEET...

YOU WERE KIND OF LOOKING ALL OVER AT THE ENTIRE THING, RIGHT?

HO HO... IT'S NOTHING TOO COMPLICATED...

油



THAT'S WHAT'S CALLED FOCUS! CONCEN-TRATION!

HE REALLY IS SLOW...

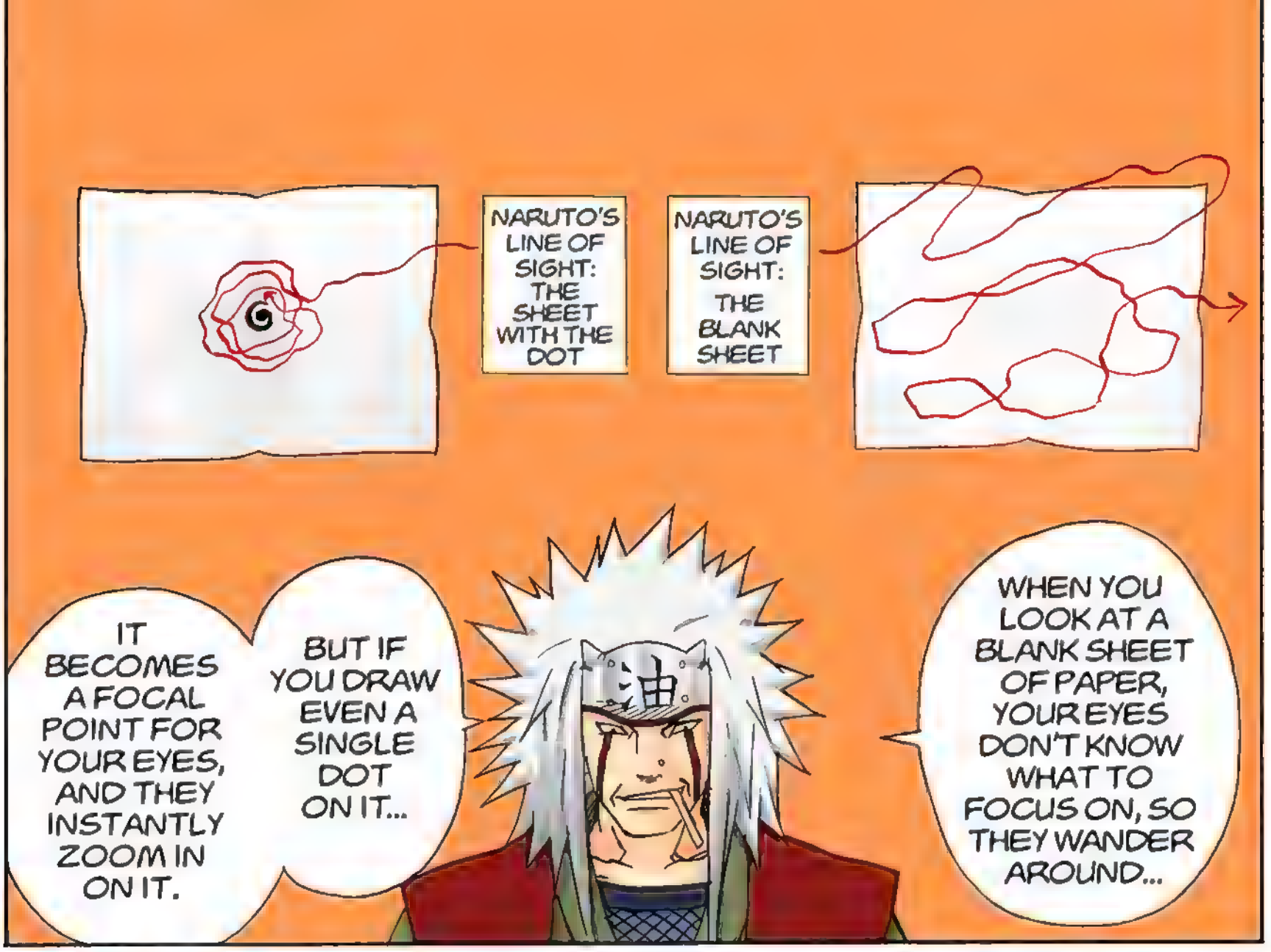
FOCUS?

.....

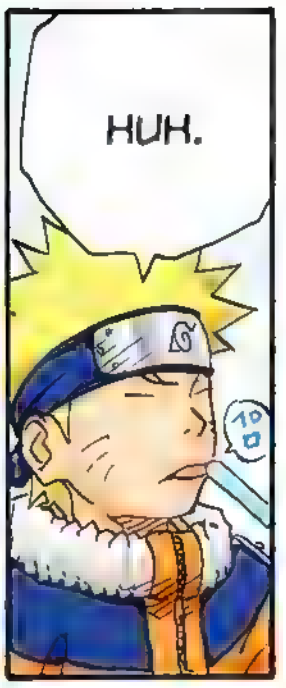
SO? WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH ANYTHING?

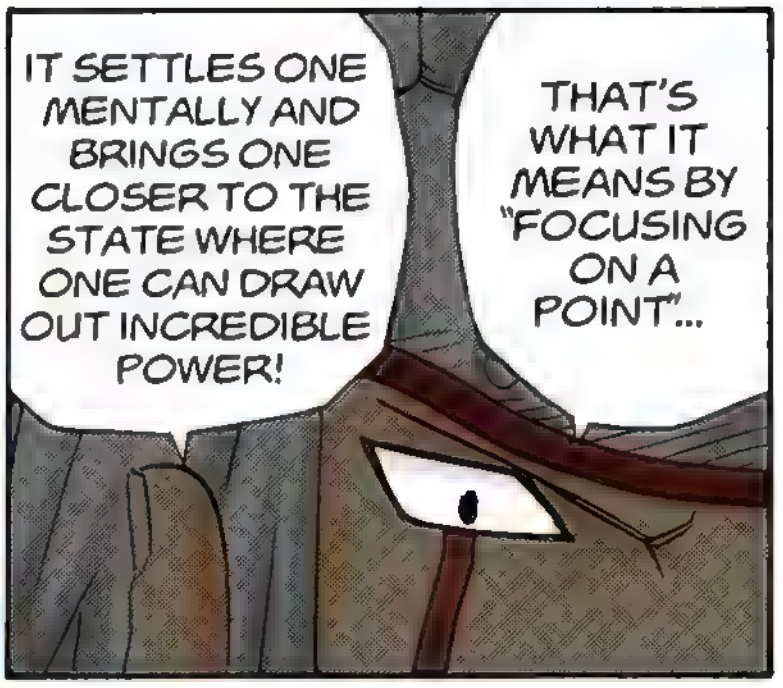
THAT'S RIGHT!

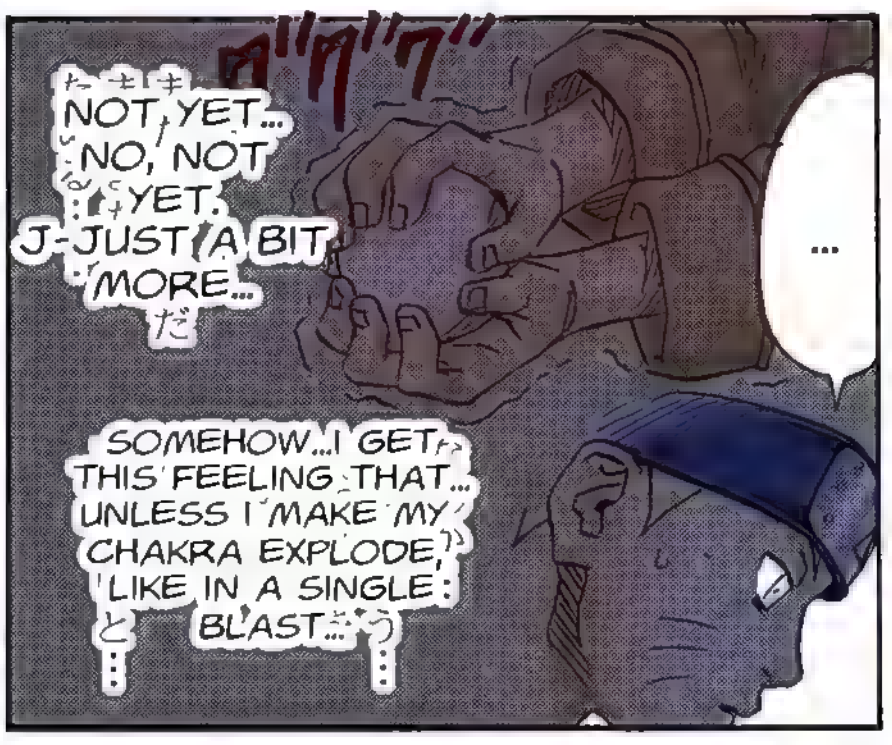
YEAH!

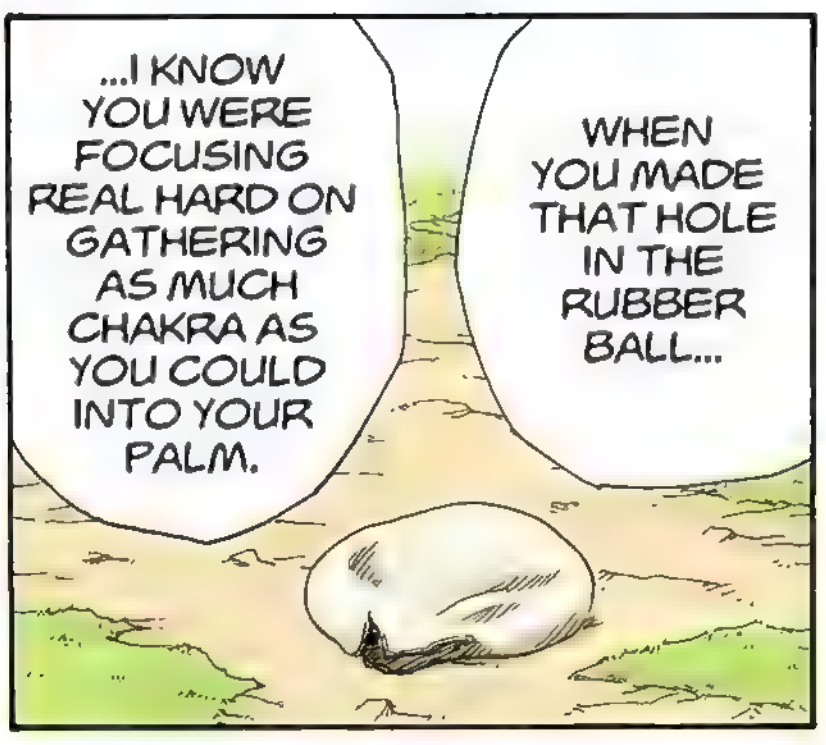

NARUTO'S LINE OF SIGHT: THE SHEET WITH THE DOT
NARUTO'S LINE OF SIGHT: THE BLANK SHEET
IT BECOMES A FOCAL POINT FOR YOUR EYES, AND THEY INSTANTLY ZOOM IN ON IT.
BUT IF YOU DRAW EVEN A SINGLE DOT ON IT...
WHEN YOU LOOK AT A BLANK SHEET OF PAPER, YOUR EYES DON'T KNOW WHAT TO FOCUS ON, SO THEY WANDER AROUND...

I BET YOU WERE THE TYPE THAT GOT SCOLDED AT THE ACADEMY FOR LACK OF CONCEN-TRATION, EH.
IN SHORT, IT HELPS YOU CONCEN-TRATE!
DOINK


HUH.


IT SETTLES ONE MENTALLY AND BRINGS ONE CLOSER TO THE STATE WHERE ONE CAN DRAW OUT INCREDIBLE POWER!
THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS BY "FOCUSING ON A POINT"...


NOT YET... NO, NOT YET. J-JUST A BIT MORE...
SOMEHOW...I GET THIS FEELING THAT... UNLESS I MAKE MY CHAKRA EXPLODE, LIKE IN A SINGLE BLAST...
...


...I KNOW YOU WERE FOCUSING REAL HARD ON GATHERING AS MUCH CHAKRA AS YOU COULD INTO YOUR PALM.
WHEN YOU MADE THAT HOLE IN THE RUBBER BALL...

FROM NOW ON, WHEN YOU'RE GATHERING YOUR CHAKRA INTO YOUR RIGHT PALM,

LISTEN UP, NARUTO!

SO THEN WHAT?

YUP! OK!

SIGH... IT'S TIRING TRYING TO EXPLAIN TO AN IDIOT.

FOCUS IT ON THAT MARK ON YOUR HAND!

FOCUS ...!

.....

WELL THEN... I'M GONNA HEAD BACK TO COLLECT MORE INFO.

WHAT?!

NO FRIENDLY MASTER-DISCIPLE GAME OF CATCH?!

ALL RIGHT!

I'M GONNA GO FOR IT!!

THERE! GAME OVER.

.....

STRIIIIIIIKE

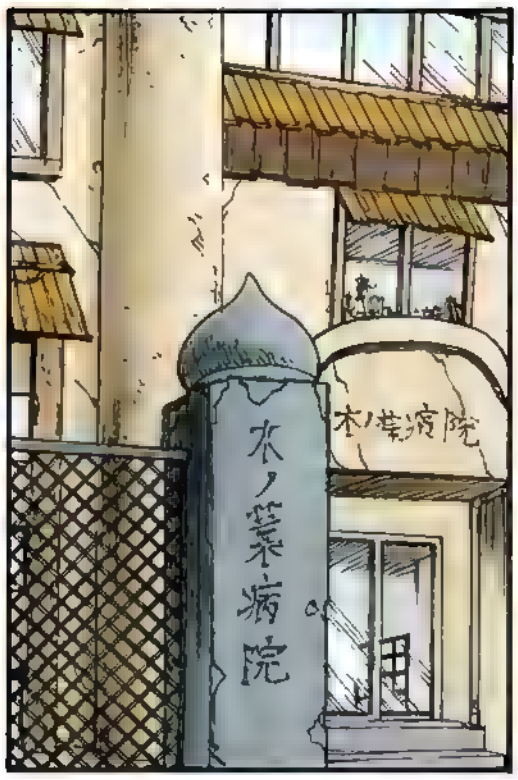
YOU HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO ACHIEVE THE LEVEL OF THE FOURTH HOKAGE... SO GO FOR IT.

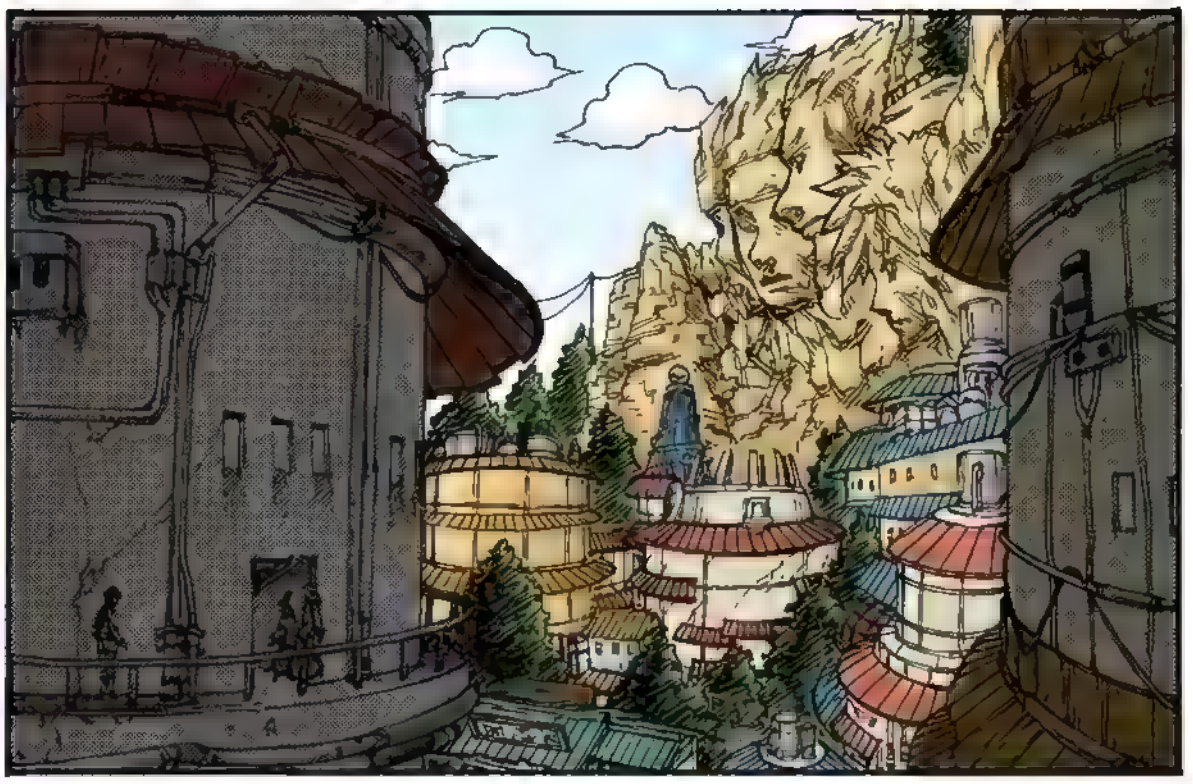
I DON'T NEED PERVY SAGE... I CAN DO IT. I CAN DOOOOO IT!

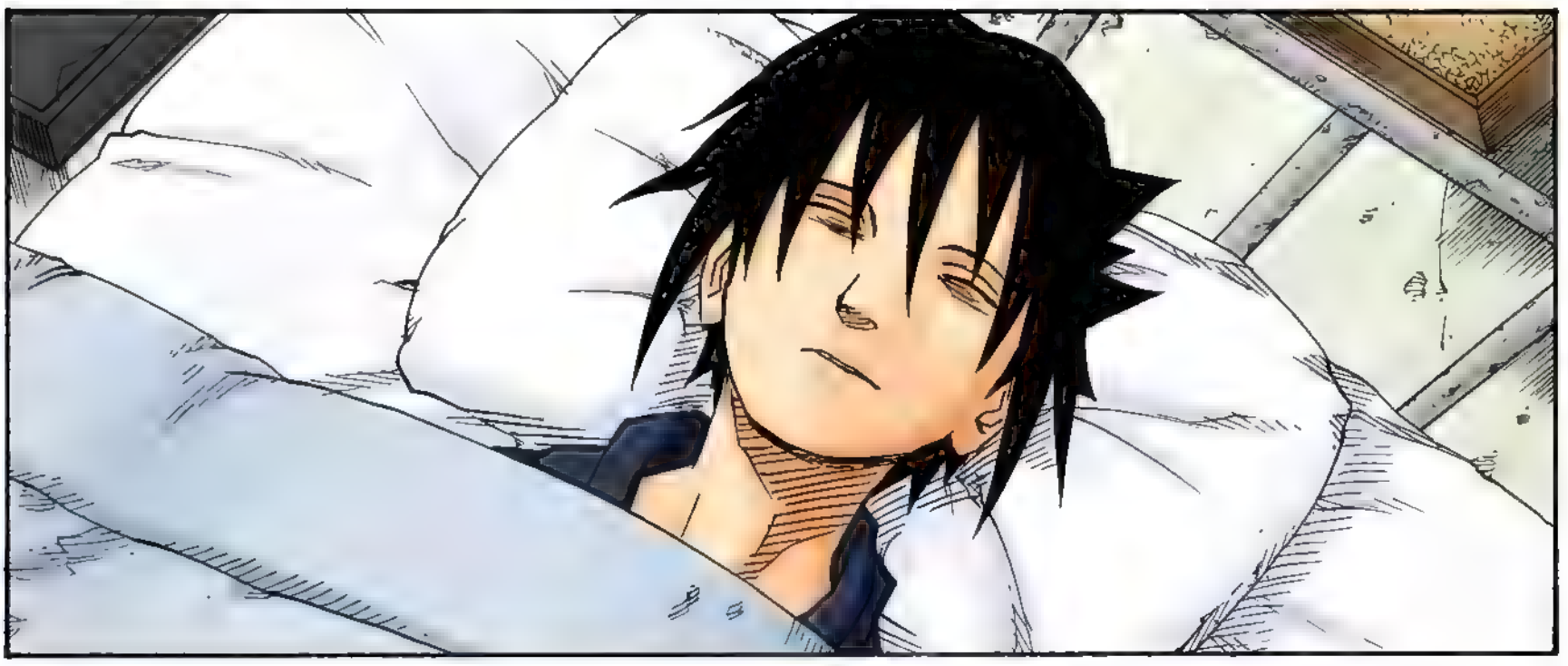
SORRY, NARUTO... YOU HAVE TO MASTER THIS EXERCISE ON YOUR OWN...

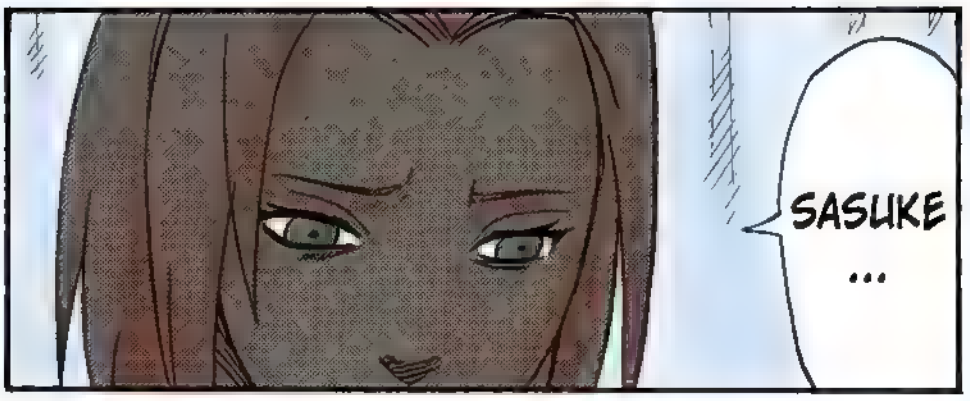
GAH- HA HA, LATER!

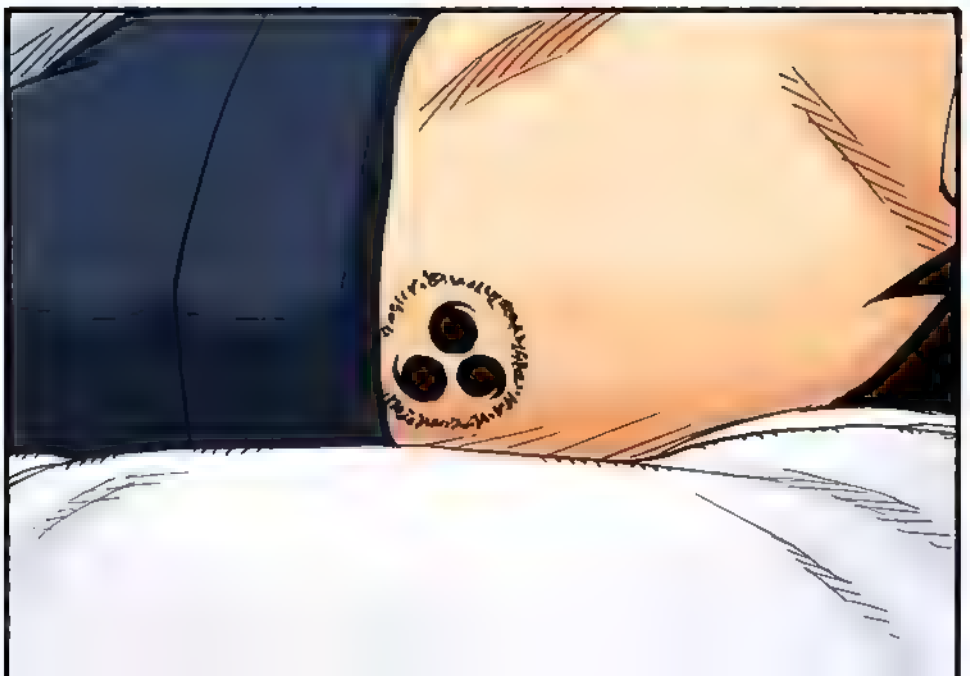
.....

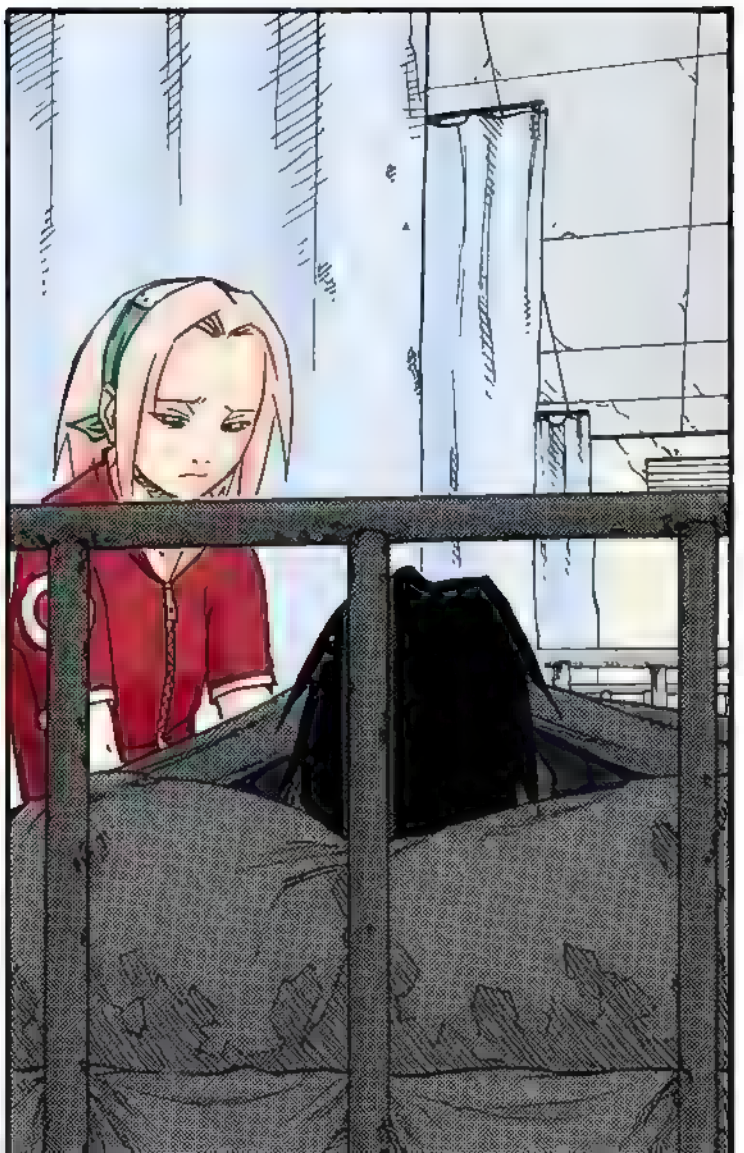

木ノ葉病院






SASUKE
...





AAAAARGH!!

UNNNH, UGH...

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M... MY ARMS...

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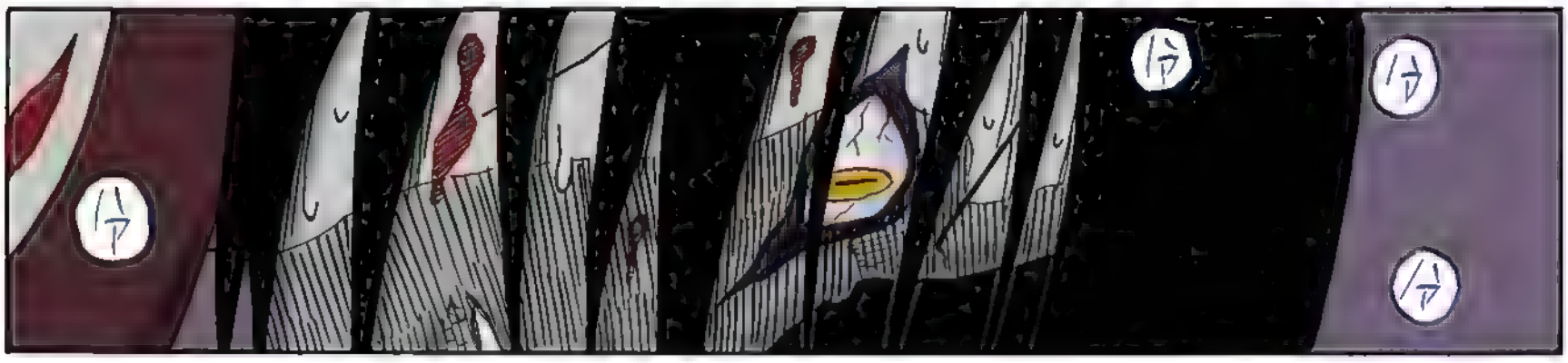
ズキン

HUF HUF

LORD OROCHIMARU... PLEASE TAKE YOUR MEDICINE!!

ZZZ



...OH DEAR, I GET BACK AND HAVE TO CLEAN THE ROOM RIGHT AWAY, EH.
DO PLEASE TAKE YOUR MEDICINE.

...UGH.

BUT I MADE THEM FOR YOU ALONE!

THEY SHOULD RELIEVE AT LEAST A LITTLE OF THE PAIN...

...I DON'T NEED YOUR USELESS MEDS...

WELL, THEY ARE THE CURSED WOUNDS OF SARUTOBI...

IT'S THE THIRD HOKAGE'S FINAL ACT...

...I FEEL LIKE MY ARMS ARE BURNING UP...

...I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE THIS PAINFUL...

IT SEEMS SHE IS HANGING AROUND A TOWN CALLED TANZAKU.

...YES.

UGH... MORE TO THE POINT..

...CAN THE TEDIOUS SPEECH...

HAVE... YOU LOCATED HER?

...TANZAKU, EH...

.....

...I SEE...

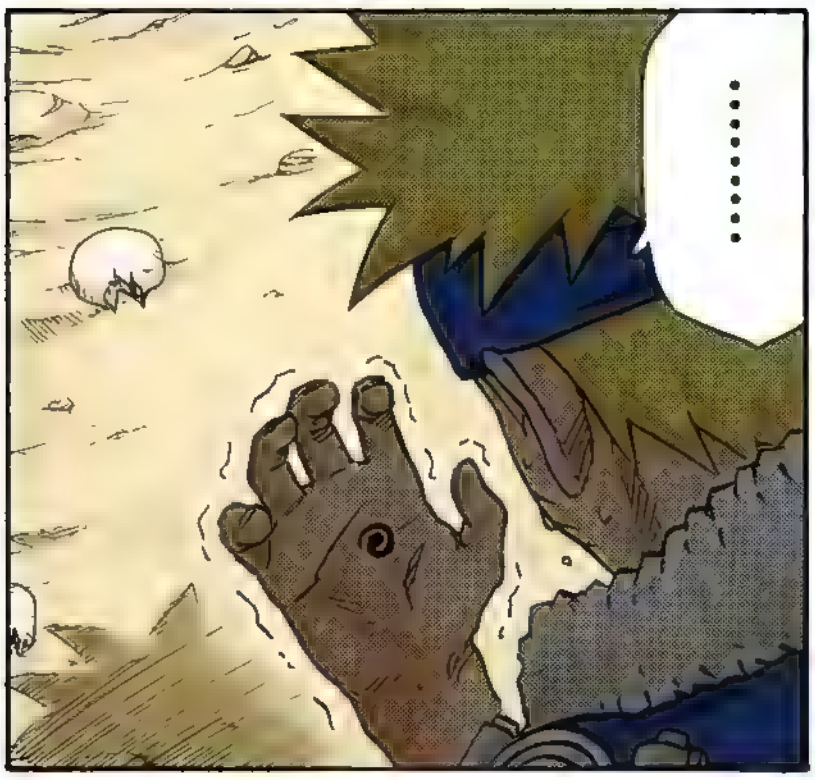
.....

HOWEVER, I DON'T BELIEVE IT WILL BE THAT SIMPLE TO...

... UGH ...

.. HUMPH...

THE BEST MEDICINE ALWAYS TASTES BITTER, YOU KNOW...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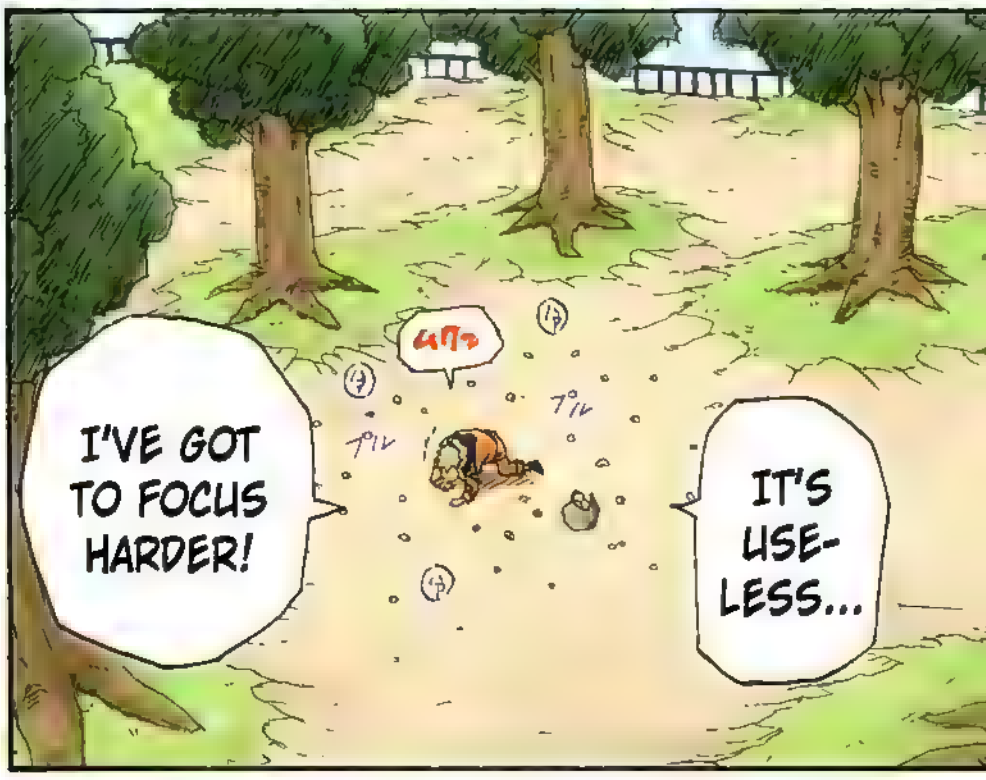
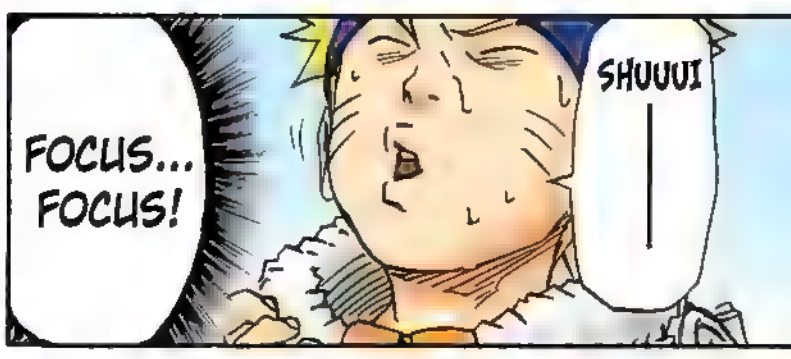
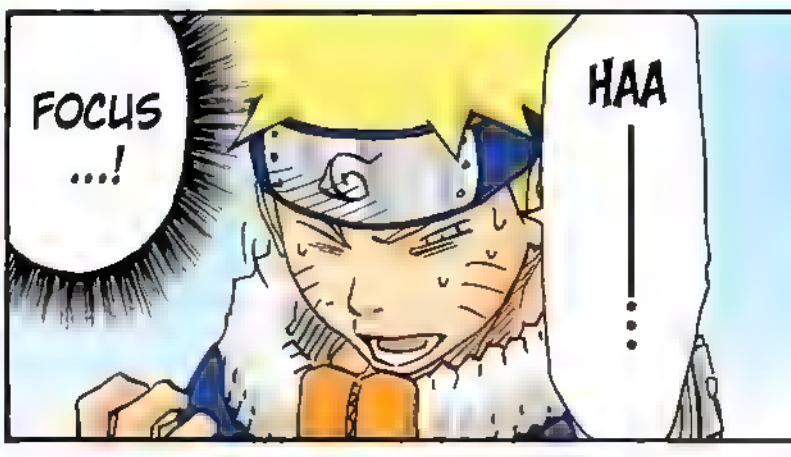
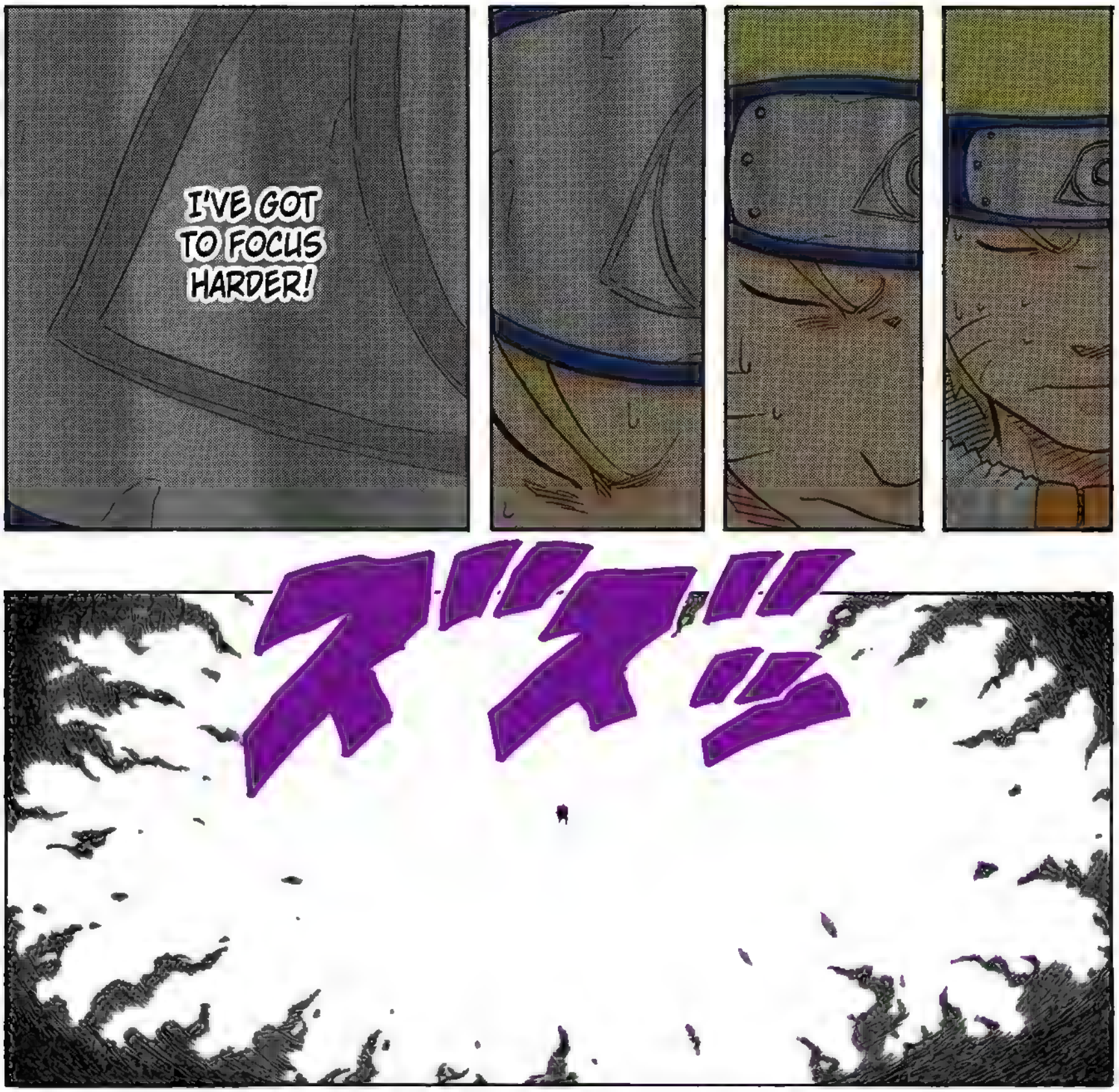
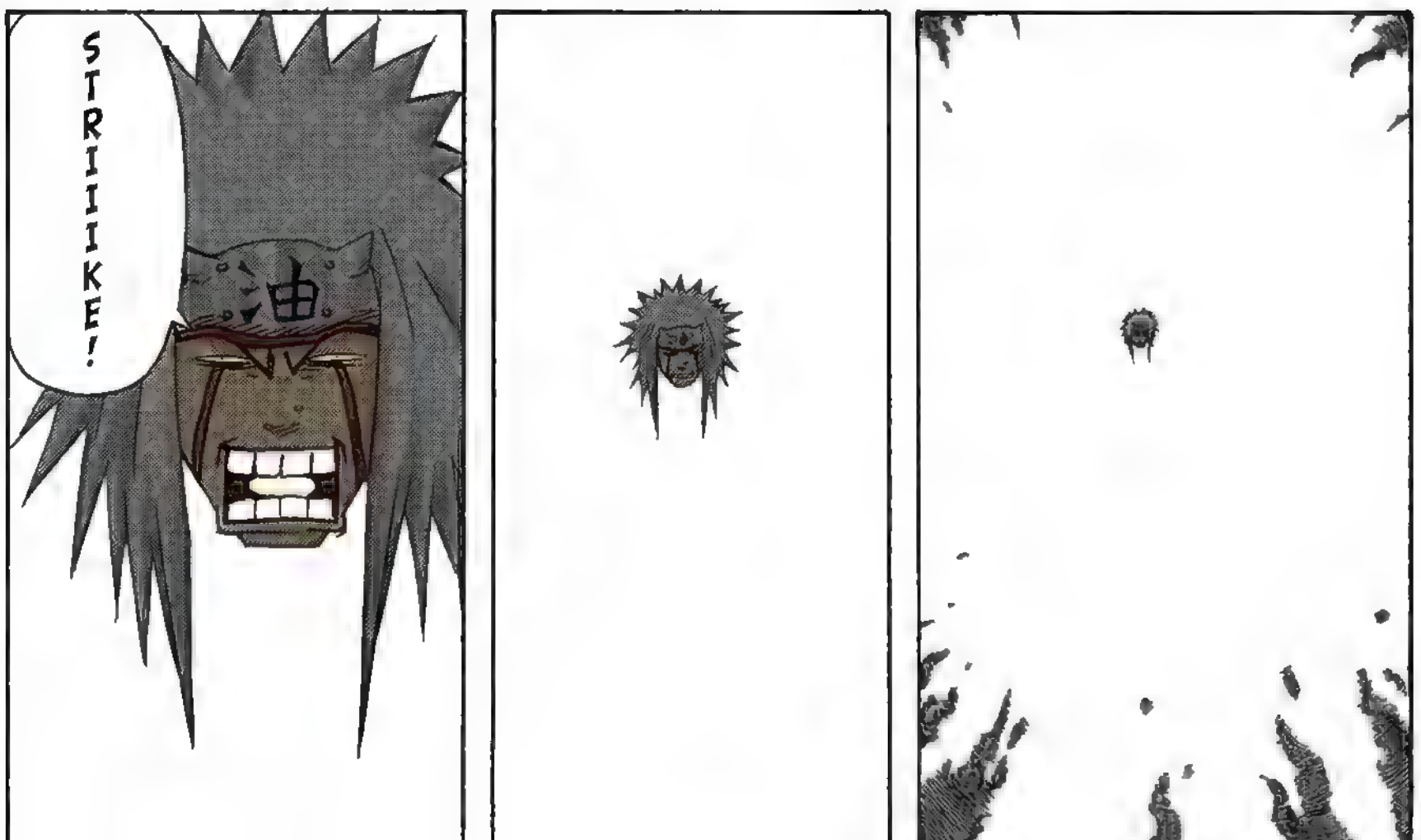

I'VE GOT TO FOCUS HARDER!
IT'S USE-LESS...

.....


FOCUS... FOCUS!
SHUUUI


FOCUS ...!
HAA


I'VE GOT TO FOCUS HARDER!


STRIIIKE!

NARUTO'S TRAINING IS STILL GOING ROUGHLY.

WHEN ALL I CAN SEE IS THAT PERVY FOOL'S FACE!!

HOW THE HECK AM I SUPPOSED TO FOCUS...

A-HA HA HA!!

.....

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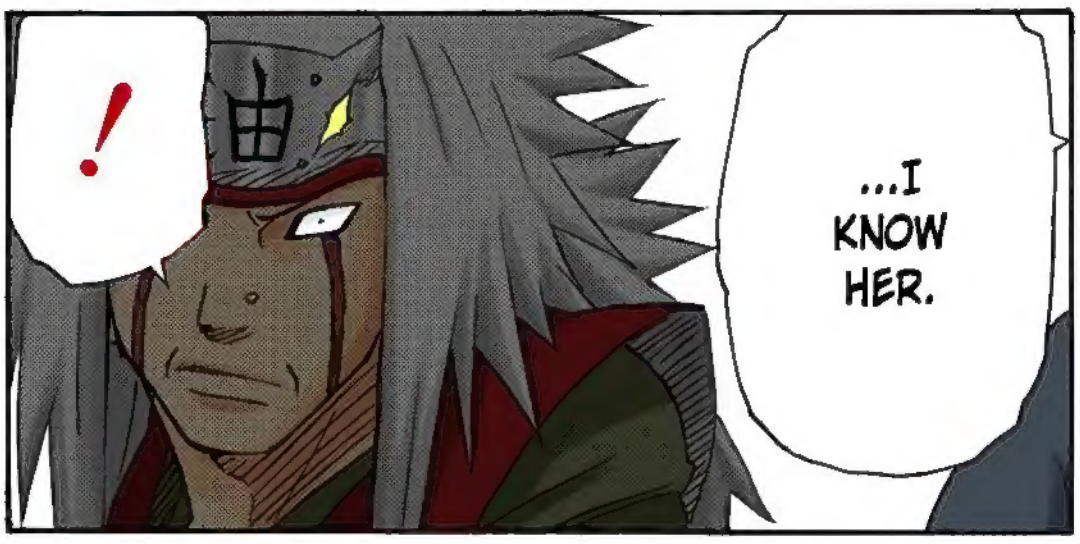

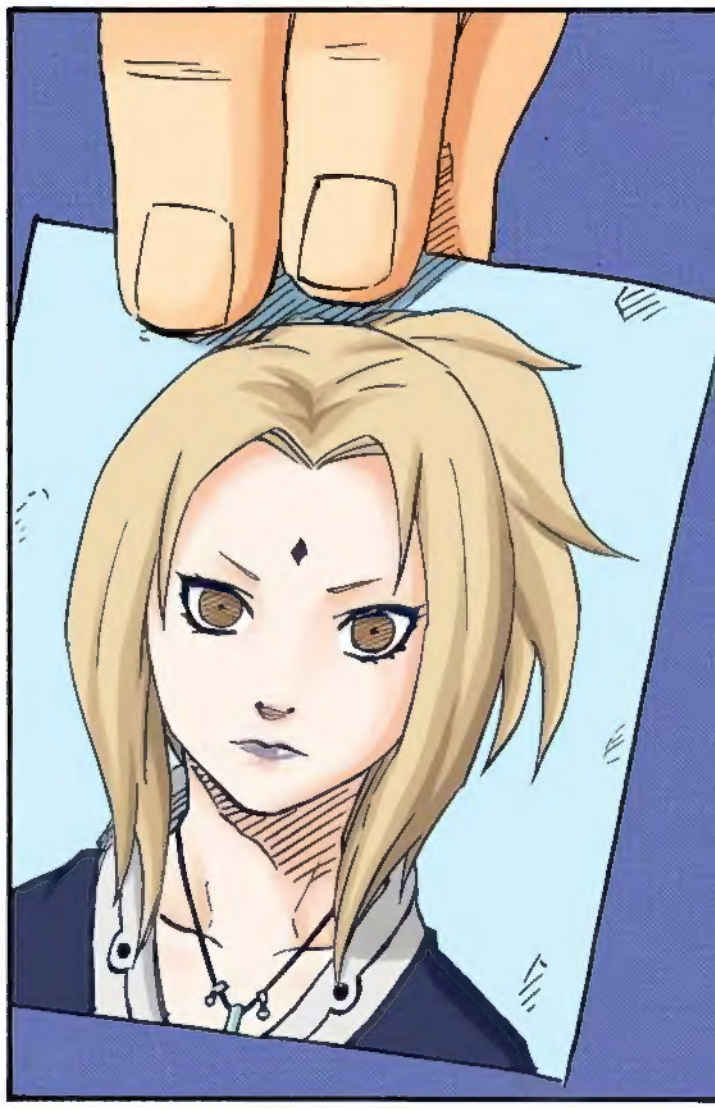

I'LL BUY YOU A ROUND.

AND WHERE SHE'S AT, TOO.

'CUZ THAT LADY EARNED ME A PRETTY SUM.

HMPH... SURE!

...WHERE?

THAT LEGENDARY LOSER'S AT IT AGAIN...

AGAIN? HUNH...

TANZAKU.

HUH, NOT TOO FAR FROM HERE.

油

FINALLY... MY ARMS... WILL BE HEALED.

短冊街

HUMPH... YOU COMING TO TANZAKU WITH ME OR NOT?

EVEN IF IT'S ABOUT GOOD MEDICINE...

I DON'T THINK SHE'LL BE SIMPLY BITTER...

三味み

カシャ

FINALLY!

THIS JUST DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT...

I CAN'T BELIEVE I GOT A LINE OF SEVENS.

やったー!!